

Price of 500

MARCH, 1751.

dare say; like that faithful old creature; wou'd be ready to follow you

• *To the last gasp with truth and loyalty."*

"And so I believe he would," (replied the old knight, with a smile of tenderness,) "he has liv'd in our family from a child, and been my constant attendant; I have never known any part of life TOBIAS has not had a share in; and tho' 'tis true, I never underwent great vicissitudes of fortune; yet in all my fortunes and in every circumstance, I have found him punctual and faithful to the last pitch, and more solicitous after my interest than any private one of his own; little regarding the acquisition of wealth for himself so long as he cou'd add to mine, and preserve my wonted economy. I believe the poor fellow may have saved some two or three hundred

* Sep As you like it, Act II. Scene 3.

B b

pounds,

pounds, least I shou'd die, to be his foster nurse in his old age, but that was needless, for I have taken care of him, and will never let him want whether I live or die." "And surely, Sir LIONEL, said Mr. WATCHTIDE, nothing demands reward so well as a faithful old servant: A good one in our times is much to be priz'd, but one that has liv'd his life in our family, has seen the several turns in our fortune, has enter'd into our several little interests, beheld our children grow up into man, and been a sort of meaner friend, ought to be respected with a kind of parental affection, and esteem'd with social tenderness. "For my part, says PALAMEDES, there is nothing gives me a greater opinion of my friends than to find the same smiling menials attending whenever I visit them: As on the contrary, there is nothing offends me more than to see servants treated with haughty insult, and new ones succeeding in disagreeable and constant vicissitude. How ill does it become a lady, (how often have I blush'd to hear it?) to perplex her company with the faults of her servants, and her own misfortunes in meeting with such stupid wretches, whom she is perpetually putting into confusion by snarling at their faults, hurrying 'em by her own impatience, and making 'em commit inevitable blunders by her own haste, imprudence and indiscretion? For my part it seems to me the greatest rudeness to mention the affairs of servants in common conversation, but the very height of folly to tell 'em of their faults in public, and drive 'em to blushes and the utmost perplexity by illnatur'd replies,

snappish commands, and hasty peevish questions and answers. Gentleness and good-nature wou'd do much, and that shou'd be us'd in private: They shou'd be treated like fellow-creatures, and drawn by the cords of love and tenderness: Passion shou'd be ever avoided, and deliberate and emollient advice prudently applied; and if this will not do, the master can but dismiss the servant so unprofitable, and provide one more advantageous." You put me in mind PALAMEDES, replied HILARIO, of an old friend of mine I am frequently oblig'd to visit: I never hear of the approach of the footman but I tremble: Fear and consternation are ever in the fellow's brow when he enters, and he is sure to meet with some smart cut as soon as he appears, which never fails to add to his confusion, and make him commit some odd blunder. He came in the other day with the tea things, when the lady, frowning cried out, "Há fellow, what do'st mean, where's t'other wastecoa? He star'd, and faulter'd out trembling, Madam:—Poh, blockhead, says she, reach the tea-chest; upon which he went to the door for the tea-kettle:—"What are you about, you, says she—reach me that—that there;—he turning round, took up her work basket and brought her, which she receiving very coolly, return'd at his head—he, frighten'd, went to move off, and stumbling, threw down the tea-table and all her fine china: conceive the consequence: for my part I was as much confounded as the fellow, and after things were a little compos'd, entertain'd all the time I stay'd with the blunders

of

of this poor fellow, her present maids, and those for twenty years preceding." And such, my friend, said Sir LIONEL, have I observ'd, is the manner of too many: I remember when I was a boy, my father used constantly to exhort me from using servants with familiarity, and advise me to treat 'em with civility and mildness. I have ever observ'd that rule, and never had a servant depart from my family, unless to their long home, or a yoke-fellow, and one of my little farms. Indeed almost my whole estate is occupied by my own servants, who are a kind of meaner stewards, and respect me with filial regard. I am never happier than when I take little excursions amongst them, see plenty smiling around them, and all things in a flourishing condition, the sure effects of fidelity and industry. "I suppose, Sir LIONEL, said POLITIAN smiling, you seldom make any of those excursions without one silent view of a certain old castle, you know where." I take the hint, POLITIAN, replied the good knight, and to let you see how different the manner of Life amongst us young fellows was to what it is now, will beg your patience awhile, and give you a short narrative of my but little variegated life. I can talk more freely of the glittering *nothings* about town, as NICANDER is so kind as to withdraw from our company, engaged, I suppose, in some jovial piece of idle gallantry.—Know then, my father, who held the same seat in parliament, and liv'd in the same dwelling both here and in the country with his son, was a man universally esteem'd

for his honesty, sound principles, and upright dealings. Heaven never favour'd him with any more children than myself, which with a parent less sensible, might have prov'd my ruin: for an only child is commonly an undone favourite. My father, indeed, was over and above fond of me; and I believe the more so, as I was the image of his belov'd wife, whom he lost to gain me. But how much soever he doated on me, he let nothing necessary to my advantage in future life be omitted. On which account he plac'd me under the tuition of his good friend the minister of his parish, an honest, sensible, and pious man; who, unlike the generality of modern tutors, took especial care to instruct me in all the social duties, and make me rather an adept in virtue and religion, than *Latin and Greek*; not, by the bye, that these were forgot, each went hand in hand: for learning is never a foe to virtue. That my education might not be altogether private, my father prevail'd upon two or three of the neighbouring gentlemen to place their sons with his; under the care of Mr. *Meanwell*; for tho' I esteem a private education far the best, yet certainly some companions are absolutely necessary to stimulate little bosoms, as well as amuse their vacant hours. Under Mr. *Meanwell*, I pass'd the first fourteen years of my life, not greatly distinguish'd for any remarkable adventures; for I am none of your *Jones*, your *Pickles*, and the like: I was principally noted for my gravity and sage demeanor; and when a boy, dignified with the name of the grave young man, a title that

pleas'd my father much, who, prepossess'd with a parent's fondness, was strongly of opinion I should make a judge or a lord chancellor: a failing very common with parents, and often of very pernicious consequence. However, gentlemen, as you see, I baulk'd 'em all. To proceed—My tutor, thinking me now fit for a college, with my good father, attend'd me to that excellent university *Cambridge*, where I was admitted in the degree of *fellow-commoner*. Notwithstanding which, I thought it my business there to apply to my studies, and make improvement my sole aim. To which end I read much, and kept little company, save with the graver dons, and men of most solidity: tho' I must confess to you, I was often deceiv'd by a grave and solemn outside, and found the countenance a very fallacious index of the mind, verifying often an observation, I think, of *Dryden's*—"That there are who wanting wit affect gravity, and go by the name of solid men: and a solid man is, in plain *English*, a solid, solemn fool:" so, to confess the truth, I often found it. Upon my return into the country the first vacation, remarks were constantly made upon my improvement; my wigs were observed to be more polite, my cloaths better cut, and my shoes more genteel than usual: in short, the whole country rung with the praises of the young 'quire. I was now, as a collegian, permitted to visit with my father, and introduc'd into all companies, which I own pleas'd me much, as I noted by that means the different humours of men, a custom always greatly pleasing to

me: and tho' I seldom spoke in company, I never fail'd of communicating all my observations to my father. It happen'd one day we were to visit a widow lady, who liv'd just by us, and was remarkable no less for her good economy and pious way of life, than for her fine daughter. I had been so little us'd to the company of ladies, the thoughts of the visit gave me a good deal of perplexity, and nothing but Ideas of ill behaviour, awkwardness and rusticity ran in my head: full of these fears we approach'd the house, and when we were introduc'd, my heart throbb'd, my colour came, and I was all confusion: I sat down, but saw neither mother nor daughter. The old lady and my father presently enter'd into discourse, while the young one and myself sat mute: but the conversation soon turning upon me and the university, I ventur'd to look up and answer a question or two Mrs. *Somerville* ask'd me: grown bolder by degrees, I at length adventur'd to steal a side-long glance at the young lady, who by accident was just doing the same at me: but how, my friends, shall I describe to you the emotions I then felt; they were painful, they were pleasing, and such as I had never known before, and consequently could not account for then. However I found such satisfaction in looking at the young lady, that I scarce mov'd my eyes from her all the time I stay'd, and departed with a strange and uneasy reluctance. As we pass'd home, my tongue ran very volubly in praise of the mother and daughter, but particularly the latter; on which my father gave me a signi-

significant look, and cry'd, "Well,
 "well, Lie, 'tis no matter, she's a
 "very deserving girl, and of a good
 "family." I did not well un-
 derstand him; but all the evening,
 and all the night, did nothing but
 dream of miss *Somerville*; and in
 the morning, when writing, was
 carried by a kind of involuntary
 impulse into the following lines,
 which, as they are almost the only
 efforts of my muse, I'll give you,
 and with them conclude my prate-
 tle, with which I suppose you are
 sufficiently tir'd: and if ever you
 do set my tongue a running again,
 lookee, you shall be plagued with
 as long an old man's tale.

To the all-beautiful Charlotte So-
 merville,

WHenas I view'd with raviſh'd
 wonderment,
 Earth's every beauty and each
 landſkip gay:
 To heav'n my adoration I up-ſent,
 And deem'd nought here cou'd beau-
 teous be as they:

But when my eyes up to the heav'ns
 did ſtray,
 And view'd all glorious walking
 thro' the ſky
 The gorgeous ſun, my wonder ſlew
 that way,
 Compar'd with that great ſight all
 glories die:

For what (methought) with it could
 dare to vie?
 Ah me, I had not then, fair maid,
 beheld
 Thy blooming cheeks and either ſpark-
 ling eye,
 Thoſe worthier wonder than earth's
 gayeſt field:

*Thoſe lovelier than each light that
 rolls on high,
 Who views new lives, and yet who
 views muſt die,*

They all join'd in commending
 Sir LIONEL's ſonnet, and inſiſted
 upon his finiſhing the hiſtory he
 had begun hereafter, as he had
 greatly rais'd their expectations:
 he promis'd ſo to do, obſerving a
 man may tell his adventures a-
 mongſt friends ſeaſonably enough;
 tho' he thought the humour of pub-
 liſhing lives now adays, rather too
 hackney'd: I'll read you a letter,
 ſays HILARIO, I receiv'd from a
 friend, whom I entreated to give
 me ſome account of his life.

Dear Sir,

I Don't remember any author that
 I has wrote profeſſedly on him-
 ſelf, except our great *Cowley*: and
 indeed, the ſubject is of ſuch a na-
 ture, that few people are more in-
 clin'd to think well of the perform-
 ance, than the author pleas'd to
 compoſe it: "It is a hard and nice
 ſubject for a man to write of him-
 ſelf: it grates his own heart to ſay
 any thing of diſparagement, and
 the reader's ears to hear any thing
 of praiſe of him." For a man to
 write any thing to his own diſ-
 praiſe, is as abſurd as to commend
 himſelf; each ſprings from the
 ſame principle, and vanity, that
 univerſal paſſion, is equally the
 origin of both. So that I think
 we may very reaſonably conclude,
 a man ought never to write of him-
 ſelf, no more than a poet rehearſe
 his own poems: for ſuch is the
 univerſally prevailing envy of man-
 kind, that if the author repeats
 'em with due emphasis and proper
 delivery,

delivery, he is esteem'd cox-comically fond of, and pleas'd with his own performances; if they are repeated without due life and spirit, their beauty and nerves are entirely lost.—But if a man ought never to write on himself, what then shall we say to our modern apologists? Is it not idle in them too, to trouble the world with unaffecting rehearals of an unprofitable life? Truly I think it so: And a folly too much favouring of dear self-regard: I know not what I have to do with the private scenes of another man's life, or what right that man has to assume to himself so great importance as to make his life a publick concern. Indeed there are amongst us some who have had admirable success in that method of writing. The life of Mr. *Cibber* is a very well wrote and unaffected piece, full of good reflections, rules for the stage, and many notable circumstances that render it useful and agreeable. But few must dare to hope for that success: And on the whole, even success in such a case seems in a good measure shaded by the too great presumption of the important fame-seeker. *Cæsar* has written his own commentaries; and therein shew'd his exquisiteness of judgment. For *Cæsar* that fought never appears in *Cæsar* that wrote; nor does the impartial author shew himself thro' all that excellent work, insomuch that one would imagine he had abstracted all self-love out of his constitution, or at least, placed himself in the character of

some impartial by-stander, while he compiled the history of his own grand exploits.

For my own part, (and I believe it is so with you too, and most of us) when I set down to read any thing on the subject of himself, written by an author, I generally find myself in fear for him, and in a good measure prejudiced against his assertions; particularly, if in his own favour; when indeed they rarely prove much. Even *Pope's* Epistle to *Arbuthnot*, which has certainly many excellent things in it displeases me most of all his pieces, and I imagine chiefly because he himself is the subject, or more perhaps on account of that important air he assumes in justifying his own conduct. Let his admirers say what they will, there surely appears all thro' it a very high degree of vanity, and a thorough confession of his good opinion of himself, and that which he thought the world had, nay, more that they *ought* to have of him. When you have read my sentiments on this matter, don't wonder I refuse complying with your farther request.

I am, &c.

C.

Your amour with miss *Charlotte*, said *POLITIAN*, will be a good Introduction, Sir *LIONEL*, to a paper from the *RAMBLER*, written, as I apprehend, not only from the introduction, but the benevolent manner, by the humane author of *Clarissa*.

Fœcunda

* *Fœcunda culpæ Secula Nuptias
Primum inquinavere, & genus, &
demos,*

*Hoc Fonte derivata clades
In Patriam Populumque fluxit.*

Hor.

THE reader is indebted for this day's entertainment, to an author from whom the age has received greater favours, who has enlarged the knowledge of human nature, and taught the passions to move at the command of virtue.

To the RAMBLER.

WHEN the *Spectator* was first published in single papers, it gave me so much pleasure, that it is one of the favourite amusements of my age to recollect it; and when I reflect on the foibles of those times, as described in that useful work, and compare them with the vices now reigning among us, I cannot but wish that you would oftener take cognizance of the manners of the better half of the human species, that if your precepts and observations be carried down to posterity, the *Spectators* may shew to the rising generation what were the fashionable follies of their grandmothers, the *Rambler* of their mothers, and that from both they may draw instruction and warning.

When I read those *Spectators*

which took notice of the misbehaviour of young women at church, by which they vainly hope to attract admirers, I used to pronounce such forward young women *Seekers*, in order to distinguish them by a mark of infamy from those who had patience and decency to stay till they are sought. But I have lived to see such a Change in the manners of women, that I would now be willing to compound with them for that name, although I then thought it disgraceful enough, if they would deserve no worse; since now they are too generally given up to negligence of domestick business, to idle amusements, and to wicked rackets, without any settled view at all but of squandering time.

In the time of the *Spectator*, excepting sometimes an appearance in the ring, sometimes at a good and chosen play, sometimes on a visit at the house of a grave relation, the young ladies contented themselves to be found employ'd in domestick duties; for then routs, drums, balls, assemblies, and such like markets for women were not known. Modesty and diffidence, gentleness and meekness, were looked upon as the appropriate virtues and characteristick graces of the sex. And if a forward spirit pushed itself into notice, it was exposed in print as it deserved.

* *First these flagitious times
(Pregnant with unknown crimes;)
Conspire to violate the nuptial bed.
From which polluted bed*

*Infectious streams of crowding sins began,
And thro' the spurious breed and guilty nation ran.*

ROSCOMMON.

The churches were almost the only places where single women were to be seen by strangers. Men went thither expecting to see them; and perhaps too much for that only purpose. But some good often resulted, however improper was their motive. Both sexes were in the way of their duty. The man must be abandoned indeed, who loves not goodness in another; nor were the young fellows of that age so wholly lost to a sense of right, as pride and conceit has since made them affect to be. When therefore they saw a fair-one whose decent behaviour and chearful piety shewed her earnest in her first duties, they had the less doubt, judging politically only, that she would have a conscientious regard to her second. With what ardor have I seen watched for, the rising of a kneeling beauty? And what additional charms has devotion given to her recommunicated features?

The men were often the better for what they heard. Even a *Saul* was once found prophesying among the prophets whom he had set out to destroy. To a man thus put into good humour by a pleasing object, religion itself look'd more amiably. The *Men Seekers* of the *Spectator's* times loved the holy place for the object's sake, and lov'd the object for her suitable behaviour in it. Reverence mingled with their love, and they thought that a young lady of such good principles must be addressed only by the man, who at least made a shew of good principles, whether his heart was quite right or not. Nor did the young lady's behaviour, at any time of the service,

lessen this reverence. Her eyes were her own, her ears the preacher's. Women are always most observed, when they seem themselves least to observe, or to lay out for observation. The Eye of a respectful lover loves rather to receive confidence from the withdrawn eye of the fair-one, than to find itself obliged to retreat.

When a young gentleman's affection was thus laudably engaged, he pursued its natural dictates: Keeping then was a rare, at least a secret and scandalous vice, and a wife was the summit of his wishes. Rejection was now dreaded, and pre-engagement apprehended. A woman whom he loved, he was ready to think must be admired by all the world. His fears, his uncertainties, his increased love. Every enquiry he made into the lady's domestick excellence, which, when a wife is to be chosen, will surely not be neglected, confirmed him in his choice. He opens his heart to a common friend, and honestly discovers the state of his fortune. His friend applies to those of the young lady, whose parents, if they approve his proposals, disclose them to their daughter. She perhaps is not an absolute stranger to the passion of the young gentleman. His eyes, his assiduities, his constant attendance at a church, whither, till of late, he used seldom to come, and a thousand little observances that he paid her, had very probably first forced her to regard, and then inclined her to favour him.

That a young lady should be in love, and the love of the young gentleman undeclared, is an heterodoxy which prudence, and even policy, must not allow. But thus

applied to, she is all resignation to her parents. Charming resignation, which inclination opposes not.

Her relations applaud her for her duty; friends meet; points are adjusted; delightful perturbations, and hopes, and a few lover's fears, fill up the tedious space, till an interview is granted; for the young lady had not made herself cheap at publick places.

The time of interview arrives. She is modestly reserved; he is not confident. He declares his passion, the consciousness of her own worth and his application to her parents, take from her any doubt of his sincerity; and she owns herself obliged to him for his good opinion. The enquiries of her friends into his character, have taught her, that his good opinion deserves to be valued.

She tacitly allows of his future visits; he renews them; the regard of each for the other is confirmed; and when he presses for the favour of her hand, he receives a declaration of an entire acquiescence with her duty, and a modest acknowledgement of esteem for him. He applies to her Parents therefore for a near day; and thinks himself under obligation to them for the cheerful and affectionate manner with which they receive his agreeable application.

With this prospect of future happiness, the marriage is celebrated. Gratulations pour in from every quarter. Parents and relations on both sides, brought acquainted in the course of the courtship, can receive the happy couple with countenances illumined, and joyful hearts.

The brothers, the sisters, the friends of one family, are the brothers, the sisters, the friends of the other. Their two families thus made one, are the world to the young couple. Their home is the place of their principal delight, nor do they even occasionally quit it, but they find the pleasure of returning to it augmented in proportion to the time of their absence from it.

Oh Mr. *Rambler*! forgive the talkativeness of an old man! when I courted and married my *Latitia*; then a blooming beauty, every thing passed just so! but how is the case now? The ladies, maidens, wives, and widows are engrossed by places of open resort, and general entertainment which fill every quarter of the metropolis, and being constantly frequented, make home irksome. Breakfasting-places, dining-places, routs, drums, concerts, balls, plays, operas, masquerades for the evening, and even for all night. And lately, publick sales of the goods of broken house-keepers, which the general dissoluteness of manners has contributed to make very frequent, come in as another seasonable relief to these modern time-killers. In the summer there are in every country-town assemblies; *Tunbridge, Bath, Cheltenham, Scarborough*! What expence of dress and equipage is required to qualify the frequenters for such emulous appearance?

By the natural infection of example, the lowest people have places of sixpenny resort; and gaming tables for pence. Thus servants are now induced to fraud and dishonesty, to support extravagance, and supply their losses.

As to the ladies who frequent those publick places, they are not ashamed to shew their faces wherever men dare go, nor blush to try who shall stare most impudently, or who shall laugh loudest on the publick walks. The young fellows buzz about them as flies about a carcase, and they hear with greediness foolish things which they think pretty. They believe the men in earnest; and the men, to gratify the pride and conceit which are raised by such easy conquests, ridicule them for their credulity.

The men who would make good husbands, if they visit those places, are frightened at wedlock, and resolve to live single, except they are bought at a very high price. They can be spectators of all that passes, and, if they please, more than spectators, at the expence of others. The companion of an evening, and the companion for life, require very different qualifications. Two thousand pounds in the last age, with a domestick wife, would go farther than ten thousand in this. Yet settlements are expected, that often, to a mercantile man especially, sink a fortune into uselessness; and pin-money is stipulated for, which makes a wife independent, and destroys love, by putting it out of a man's power to lay any obligation upon her, that might engage gratitude, and kindle affection: When to all this the card-tables are added, how can a prudent man think of marrying!

And when the worthy men know not where to find wives, must not the sex be left to the foplings, the toxcombs, the liber-

times of the age, whom they help to make such? And need even these wretches marry to enjoy the conversation of those who render their company so cheap?

And what, after all, is the benefit which the gay coquet obtains by her flutters? As she is approachable by every man without requiring, I will not say incense or adoration, but even common complaisance, every fop treats her as upon the level, looks upon her light airs as invitations, and is on the watch to take the advantage: She has companions indeed, but no lovers; for love is respectful and timorous; and where among all her followers will she find a husband?

Set, dear Sir, before the youthful, the gay, the inconsiderate, the contempt as well as the danger to which they are exposed. At one time or other, women, not utterly thoughtless, will be convinced of the justice of your censure, and the charity of your instruction. But should your expostulations and reproofs have no effect upon those who are far gone in fashionable folly, they may be retailed from their mouths to their nieces, marriage will not often have entitled these to daughters, when they, the meteors of a day, find themselves elbowed off the stage of vanity by other flutterers; for the most admired women cannot have many *Tunbridge*, many *Bath* seasons to blaze in; since even fine Faces, often seen, are less regarded than new faces, the proper punishment of showy girls, for rendering themselves so impolitickly cheap.

I am, Sir, &c.

As I am one of the fraternity, said PALAMEDES, you'll perhaps think

think it self-interest that I cannot help approving the zeal that has been shewn in the *Student* for the benefit of the clergy: here is another letter in this number which I'll read you.

Brother Student,

WHEN I saw the scheme published in the fourth number of your miscellany) calculated to provide for the widows of our clergy who are left in distress, the necessity and importance of it made me believe, that it would directly be carried into execution. The narratives you have given us to enforce this scheme, are, I fear, too well grounded, as the many of my brethren, with whom I have talk'd on this subject, have each of them seperately avow'd, that they knew the unhappy persons, whose calamities you (or your correspondents) have painted so pathetically. For my own part, I am thoroughly convinc'd, that many similar instances may be produced from every one's own experience;--which call aloud for redress;--which appeal to the consciences of every fellow-labourer, from the curate to the diocesan; which by the voice of nature bid them at least remember they are men, if they can forget they should be christians.

The clergy in general having been invited to give their opinions on the matter in question, I thought it not improper to send you my own history, instead of animadversions, in some sort to justify the proposal. For if it appear that a clergyman, neither by vice or imprudence has invited poverty into his house, but could not with the utmost prudence and circumspec-

tion bar her entrance or dislodge the unwelcome guest, his relief, I am persuaded, will be thought to have a just title to relief as well as pity. That this is my case, let heaven witness for me, as my relation is true.

My father was an honest country farmer: he had a numerous family, whom he decently maintained by his industry. My self, being the seventh son, was of course brought up to learning; and every old woman in the parish predicted, that I should be a bishop, before I died. Sir JOHN GOODHEART, our landlord, undertook to defray the expence of my education: accordingly, after I had pass't thro' the school-discipline, I was sent as a commoner to *Oxford*, where my generous benefactor supported me in a manner equal to my station;--and allow me to say, I did not go there for nothing. Soon after I had taken my bachelor's degree, my patron died, and his estate devolv'd to a nephew. The good man (thinking dependancy a tie on behaviour) made no provision for me in his will, but earnestly recommended me to his successor. He, I must own, was at first very civil to me: but his remittances at length became few and uncertain; and I, being of a proper age, enter'd into holy orders for a support. The Squire, indeed, took me into his house, where I had rather the name, than the office of chaplain. I had nothing to do but to say grace at meals; for the squire was no methodist, and hated the pomp of daily prayers in the family. As I liv'd without reserve, and made one in the diversions, I could have rubb'd on well enough; but not

being able to get any money of the squire,---and having nothing but twenty pounds a year for serving the parish church, which barely kept me in clothes and pocket-money,---my peace was too often disturb'd with billets from *Oxford*, with the civil phrase of, *Sir, I want to make up a sum*. However, I soon chang'd my situation :---my patron was oblig'd to go abroad for the recovery of his health; or in other words, he had run out his estate by that fashionable vice, which is so finely satiriz'd in a poem lately publish'd (and, I am told, by one of your society) call'd *New-market*, a satire.

As I did not chuse to follow him, I was recommended to a neighbouring nobleman, who gave me the honourable badge of a scarf, and made me his chaplain. His lordship was very humane, very charitable, and very religious,---but withal, not a little vain. By his bounty I freed myself from the importunity of duns; and as he had some livings in his gift, I was in constant expectation of preferment. My life was as agreeable as I could wish: I gave nobody offence, and respect was always paid to my cloth. One thing, indeed, somewhat disgusted me :---my lord would often amuse himself in making sermons, which he would get me to preach, and at dinner lay traps for the company's commendations. Well---at length my hopes were crown'd :---a pretty considerable living became vacant :---I obtained the promise of it :---but alas! how uncertain are human affairs!---Before my presentation was sign'd, my patron was suddenly taken off; and the right

of gift being then invested in a stranger, I had the mortification to see my lord's corpse buried by another in the very church, which I hop'd to have possess'd from his bounty.

I was now thrown upon the wide world, poor, friendless, and forlorn; my whole stock amounting to little more than thirty pounds bequeath'd me for mourning.

The fat pluralist, who, as it were, stepped into my place, to make me amends, appointed me his curate; but in driving the bargain he took advantage of my necessities to beat me down to three pounds less than the bishop would have allow'd me, and forc'd me to put up with twenty seven pounds *per annum*. 'Tis true, I had the use of the parsonage house; but, tho' my master receiv'd a large sum for dilapidations, he would not spare a farthing; which oblig'd me to lay out my own money from time to time to make it barely habitable.

I shall not trouble you with an account of my manner of living, which you must imagine was very frugal; and no one, but those in the same situation, can believe it possible even to subsist on so small an income. I indeed danc'd attendance on the heir of my old lord, in hopes at last of getting something;---but affairs were strangely alter'd. Whenever I came, I met with a cold reception; and as often as I could afford to dine there, the servants (who saw I was no favourite with the master) would scarce use me with common decency. They would never give me a clean plate, without asking for it;---if I desired mixt beer, they gave me

me all small;—and at every bit I put into my mouth, they would jog one another's elbows, and leer at me with a side-look, that seem'd to say, *mind how the parson lays it in.* After thirteen years living on a curacy, I at length was honour'd with a small living, the yearly income of which did not amount to above fifty pounds. Upon this I maintain'd myself very handsomely; but as it pleas'd God to afflict me with an ill state of health, I—(can I be blamed?)—marry'd a neighbouring clergyman's daughter, who might assist me as a nurse, as well as comfort me as the partner of my cares. We have ever since liv'd together as happily as we could wish;—but, tho' I have no family, since I cannot hope to live much longer, the thoughts of leaving her quite destitute, torments me with inexpressible anxiety.

But here I will beg leave to end, lest the reflection on her unavoidable misery, should make me spin out this letter beyond a due length.

Jan. 20.

1750.

I am yours, &c.

Mr. WATCHTIDE observ'd the scheme was good, and might be of great service to be put in execution: but, pray, says he, what think you of this affair here in the *Gentleman's Magazine*? I'll read it you.

Mr. URBAN,

THE public attention has been drawn to the black-lead mines in *Cumberland*, call'd the *Wad*, by the account of their having been plundered, which has lately appear'd in the papers: but as yet they have not been described, and

though it is not known that there is any other mine of the same kind in the world, yet, I believe, they have never been visited with a view to natural history, except by myself, and some gentlemen who went with me. I, therefore, send you the following narrative of our journey and discoveries, which, I hope, will be acceptable to your readers.

Yours, &c. G. S.

I Had long intended a journey to the *Wad*, and had often been prevented from effecting it by unfavourable weather, and other accidents; but in the beginning of *August*, 1749, I set out from *Wigton*, in company with two or three friends, and had appointed others to meet us from *Cockermouth*, who waited only for my message to set out; for as this expedition had been long projected, they had determined to bear me company.—From *Wigton*, in about three hours, we arrived at *Orthwaite*, a small village under mount *Skiddow*: a sudden storm of rain obliged us to take shelter in a little alehouse at this place, and an uninterrupted series of bad weather kept us prisoners near a week; however, as the neighbouring clergymen charitably visited us every day, we did not much suffer by our confinement. Here the gentlemen from *Cockermouth* joined us on the first fair morning; and the afternoon being clear, we agreed to meet the next morning at the *Royal-Oak* in *Keswic*, a market town on the south side of *Skiddow*. This mountain, which I had visited the year before, is a fissile absorbing slate: this slate is flaked off with a kind of wedge, peculiarly

arly adapted to the work, in quarries near the top of the mountain, and is conveyed down to the plain by laborers, in a machine so contrived as to be carried upon the shoulder, the man walking upright: in these machines each man carries as much as would load a *Cumberland* cart; but having by long use learnt to improve the advantage afforded by the declivity of the mountain, they descend with little labour, and less hazard.

Skiddow is undoubtedly one of the highest mountains in *Britain*; the declivity from *white-water dale*, at the foot, to the summit, measures near 5000 yards, but the perpendicular height cannot be much more than one fourth of that measure. The neighbouring mountains are all very high, and the greater part terminate in craggy precipices, that have the appearance of huge fragments of rock, irregularly heaped on one another; but in the prospect round, nature has lavished such variety of beauty, as can scarce be believed upon report, or imagined by the most luxuriant fancy. The plains of *Basingthwaite*, watered by a fine lake, appear like a paradise to the west; and the islands that lie interspersed among the windings of *Darwent*, and the lake of *Keswick*, exceed description; beyond these, to the south, lie the mountains of *Barrowdale*, which are yet higher than *Skiddow*. The western seas, the *Ile of Man*, all the south coast of *Scotland*, and the

mountains of *Pennygent* and *Ingleborough*, in *Yorkshire*, diversify other parts of this delightful landscape. The spot upon which I stood, is one intire shiver of slate, and the precipice to the westward is frightful. The plants of *Skiddow* are the myrtle-berries, generally called blackberries, the *vitis idaea* of *Discorides*, mossberries, great variety of mosses, and among others, the *muscus squammosus pulcher digitatus* of *Tournefort*.

On *Friday* morning, pursuant to our appointment, we set out from *Orthwaite**, and our *Cockermouth* friends fell in with us before we reached *Keswick*; so that we stay'd there no longer than was necessary to hire a guide, and consequently I had no time for critical examination. It is distant from *Orthwaite* seven computed miles, and forms the west side of the base of *Skiddow*; it is skirted with the lake of *Basingthwaite*, which is about one mile wide, and five miles long, and on the opposite side *Widehope* fells, with their impending woods, form a very pleasing and romantic appearance. The town seems to be ancient, and the poorer inhabitants subsist chiefly by stealing, or clandestinely buying of those that steal, the black-lead, which they sell to *Jews* and other hawkers.

Near *Keswick* is also another lake about two miles broad, and four miles long, in which several beautiful islands are interperfed, but not inhabited by *German* mi-

* *Thwait* is the Saxon word for pasture, and the preposition is an appellation, sometimes derived from a proper name, and sometimes from a quality; thus *Mik-thwait*, or *Mickle-thwait*, is great pasture, &c.

ners, as was asserted by a worthy brother of yours lately defunct †. When I saw them, they were so many *Ortygias*, or islands of *Calyпсо*, covered with beautiful woods, which were then felling.

On one of these, called *Lady-Island*, lord *Derwentwater* had formerly a castle, now in ruins, intended to prevent the depredations which were frequently committed by the *Scots* before the union.

We left *Keswic* at nine in the morning, and would have proceeded by water, and sent our horses overland, but this way of travelling would have cost us more time than we could afford. On our left, in the way from *Keswic*, a ridge of rude craggy rocks extended near four miles; on our right was *Keswic* lake, and beyond it a group of pyramidal hills, which formed an uncommon appearance. At the head of *Keswic* lake, the *Darwent* is contracted to a narrow river, and runs between two precipices, covered with wood to the top, the perpendicular height of which is 800 yards. On approaching this place, we imagin'd it to be our *ne plus ultra*, but our guide soon convinc'd us that we were mistaken. On the west side of the *Darwent*, in this *Herculean* streight, and directly under one of these stupendous precipices, lies the village of *Grange*. The white prominent rocks, which were discovered at an immense height, thro' the apertures of the wood,

would have filled a poetical imagination with the ideas of the *Dryades*, the *Bacchus in remotis*, and other fables of antiquity. Here we were obliged many times to alight the gut being very rocky, and the mountains would indeed have been impassible, if the river had not made away.

We had now reached the *Bowders* stone of *Barrowdale*, which is much the largest stone in *England*, being at least equal in size to a first rate man of war; it lies close by the road-side, on the right hand, and seems to have been a fragment detached from the impending precipice above, by lightening or some other accident. From hence we had good road through groves of hazel, which in this vale, as there is no occasion for hedges, grow very large, and bear excellent nuts.

Before we came to *Barrowdale* chapel, which is situated on the left, the valley expands, and the two streams divide, which form the *Darwent* by their union. The area of *Barrowdale* chapel is scarce equal to that of a pigeon cote, and much less; we now entered another narrow valley, which winded through mountains that were totally barren, and in about an hour we arrived at *Seathwaite*, which is just under the mines, and, as near as I can compute, about ten miles distant from *Keswic*. The scene that now presented itself was the most fright-

† The writer means the *Universal*, or *London Magazine*; for both have given descriptions of this country, so void of truth, that they are, as to those parts, *felo de se*.—They have not the right number of churches in *Carlisle*, and both make large and fair towns, where there are not three houses together.

ful that can be conceived; we had a mountain to climb for above 700 yards, in a direction so nearly perpendicular, that we were in doubt whether we should attempt it; however, recovering our resolution, we left our horses at a little house that stood by itself, on the utmost verge of the county, and approached the mountain. The precipices were surprisingly variegated with apices, prominences, spouting jets of water, cataracts, and rivers that were precipitated from the cliffs with an alarming noise.

One of these rivers we passed, over a wretched foot-bridge, and soon after began to climb; we had not ascended far before we perceived some persons at a great distance above us, who seemed to be very busy, though we could not distinguish what they were doing; as soon as they saw us, they hastily left their work, and were running away, but by a signal made by our guide, who probably was but too well acquainted with them, they returned to the number of eighteen. We came up to them after an hour of painful and laborious travelling, and perceived them to be digging with mattocks and other Instruments, in a great heap of clay and rubbish, where mines had been formerly wrought; but tho' they were now neglected by the proprietors, as affording nothing worth the search, yet these fellows could generally clear six or eight shillings a day, and sometimes more.

The black lead is found in heavy lumps, some of which are hard, gritty, and of small value, others

soft and of a fine texture. The hill in which it is found is a dirty brittle clay, interspersed with springs; and in some places shivers of the rock. The hazel grows in great plenty from the bottom to the height of above three hundred yards, but all the upper part is utterly barren.

This mineral has not any of the properties of metal, for it will not fuse but calcine in an intense fire: before its value was discovered the farmers used it as those of the south counties do ruddle, to mark their sheep; it is not the *petroleum*, the *melanteria*, nor the *pinguis* of the ancients; nor does it agree with any description in *Pliny* or *Aldrovandus*.

About 150 yards above this rubbish is the miner's lodge, to which the ascent is very steep, and here the facts related in the news papers must have happened, if at all, for the principal heap of rubbish, where several fellows and girls were then at work, is within pistol-shot of the hut.

We had now reached the summit of the black lead hill, but were astonished to perceive a large plain to the west, and from thence another craggy ascent of 500 yards as near as I can guess.

The whole mountain is called *Unnisterre*, or, as I suppose, *Finnisterre*; for such it appears to be; myself and only one of our company determined to climb this second precipice, and in about another hour we gained the summit: The scene was terrifying, not an herb was to be seen, but wild faving; growing in the interstices of the naked rocks; the horrid projection of vast

vast promontories; the vicinity of the clouds, the thunder of the explosions in the slate quarries, the dreadful solitude, the distance of the plain below, and the mountains heaped on mountains that were piled around us, desolate, and waste, like the ruins of a world which we only had survived, excited such ideas of horror as are not to be expressed. We turned from this fearful prospect, afraid even of ourselves, and bidding an everlasting farewell to so perilous an elevation, we descended to our companions, repassed the mines, got to *Seathwaite*, were cheerfully regaled by an honest farmer in his *puris naturalibus*, returned to *Keswic* about nine at night, and got home by eleven.

This expedition, which we happily accomplished, was last year attempted by the ingenious Mr. *Bowyer*, but he got no higher than the chapel. I would have gone with him, notwithstanding the fatigue and danger that I had already experienced, but some business obliged me to decline the happiness of his company, which would have been a compensation for both.

P. S. The lumps of black lead found in the rubbish seldom exceed half a pound in weight, but those found in the mines are said to weigh six or seven pounds, they work forward for it, and the pits resemble quarries or gravel pits.

There's a story a little farther, *HILARIO*, said Sir *LIONEL*, that will please us, I believe. Let me see, I'll find it.

The Tragical Story of LUDOVISIO CARANTANI, a Milanese, and his two Daughters.

THERE is no species of domestic tyranny so iniquitous and oppressive, as that which unreasonable parents frequently exercise over their children, in popish countries, by forcing them into a state of life to which they have no call. If children ought ever to be left to their own free choice, it is certainly when the shutting them up for life in a convent or monastery is under consideration; for God requires the consecration of the heart, and to him that oblation alone which is pure and voluntary, is an acceptable sacrifice.

The following story affords a striking example of the fatal consequences of such compulsion, and is too well attested to admit any doubt of its being true.

Ludovisio Carantani, a native of *Varese*, a city of the *Milanese*, had only two daughters by a wife who had brought him a considerable fortune: but that parental affection which ought to have been divided between them, was confined to the eldest, whose name was *Victoria*; though she was not near so amiable as *Olympia* her younger sister. This capricious preference was evident even in their infancy. *Victoria* enjoy'd all the caresses of her father, nor could her sister obtain the least token of his tenderness or affection. Her mother's love indeed made her some amends for this indifference; but death having deprived her of this consolation, she was exposed to numberless contradictions, and suffer'd

continual ill treatment. *Victoria's* beauty, and the fortune which she might expect from the wealth and partiality of her father, soon drew about her a great number of suitors; and *Carantani*, that he might marry his favourite with the greater advantages, was determined to sacrifice to her interest the happiness of *Olympia*, whom he accordingly put into a convent, and caused a report to be spread that she had resolved upon a religious life. This report gain'd credit; the number of *Victoria's* lovers encreased, among whom were gentlemen of the best families in the country.

The father already congratulated himself upon the success of his scheme. As he had always treated the amiable *Olympia* with severity, he was persuaded that she would be soothed by the tranquillity of a convent, and think herself happy to have escaped the rudeness and neglect which she suffered at home. Nor was he altogether mistaken; for at the solicitation of several of her relations who were devotees, and had been gained over by her father, she consented to take the habit of a novice or probationer in the monastery of *San Martino*. But there is a time of life when nature speaks a language very different from that of monastick devotion. *Olympia*, although young, lively, and of a complexion naturally amorous, was on the point of becoming the victim of her father's ambition; and her own inexperience; but on the very day of the ceremony she saw amongst the company assembled as usual on these occasions, an amiable ca-

valier, who had made a deep impression upon her heart. Immediately the thoughts of a convent became intollerable: and she reflected with horror upon the sacrifice which she was just about to make, of all the advantages which she might promise herself in the world.

The nuns and her devout relations, who soon perceived the alteration, endeavoured in vain to bring her back to her first resolution. All the answer that they received from her, was, that her circumstances being equal to those of her sister, she had no inclination to sacrifice herself to her ambition, or to the partiality of her father; that her design was to marry, and that she entreated ^{em} to prevail upon her father to give her to a young cavalier of a very good family, by whom she knew she was beloved.

It is easy to imagine the astonishment of *Carantani*, when he was acquainted with a resolution which quite frustrated the scheme he had formed for raising the fortune of his dear *Victoria*. He earnestly entreated the nuns and his kinswomen, to redouble their endeavours to make *Olympia* alter her resolution. But these endeavours only enflamed her passion, and increased her disgust for a monastick life; nor did she conceal her sentiments even from her father, who came frequently to see her, in order to discover the effect of the remonstrances of his friends; to these he added his own; but perceiving that this expedient did not succeed, he had recourse to menaces, and assured her, that if she did not resolve upon a religious life, he would take her home again, where

where she might expect to be the most wretched of women.

Olympia, who knew her father's unkindness by a long and cruel experience, did not doubt but he would keep his word. Yet she endeavoured to mollify him by the most tender and pathetick expostulations; but neither arguments, intreaty, nor tears made the least impression upon his heart.

As by this change in *Olympia's* resolution, the match of his *Victoria* was in danger of being broken off, her lover growing cold and indifferent, in proportion as her fortune became precarious, *Carantani* was so much enraged, that the next time he visited *Olympia* he told her, in a transport of fury, that if she did not take the veil as soon as her noviciate expired, he would put her to death with his own hand. If I die it shall not be by your hand, reply'd his amiable daughter calmly. I have often represented to you my aversion to a monastic life, yet you command me to sacrifice myself to the fortune of my sister, and to that excessive fondness which you have always shewn for her; and if it be impossible for me to prevail upon you to retract this command, you shall be obey'd, since my obedience will spare you the crime which you threaten to commit against me; but you and my sister will have perpetual cause to regret the cruel sacrifice which you oblige me to make you. She added, that he might whenever he thought proper order the necessary preparations for the ceremony; after which she withdrew. *Carantani*, who probably did not know to what lengths despair might carry a young maid,

when love has once seized on her heart, pleas'd himself with the thoughts of having made her change her resolution. He went with an air of triumph to carry the news to his dear *Victoria* and her lover, who were then together. They exulted greatly upon it, and now thought themselves happy.

As the time appointed for *Olympia* to take the veil was now near, Signor *Carantani* made all the usual preparations, and, as if he thought the unhappy victim knew not to whom she was to be sacrificed, he took measures for solemnizing the marriage of his eldest daughter at the same time.

On the day preceding that which was fixt for this double ceremony, *Olympia* thought it her duty to make a last effort to soften her father, and if possible divert him from so barbarous a sacrifice. For this purpose she again reasoned, she expostulated, she intreated; but *Carantani* was equally deaf to the voice of reason, nature, and religion; he continued inflexible in his purpose, and confirmed his threatenings by the most horrible oaths. Ah! my dear father, said the amiable *Olympia*, with a look of unutterable tenderness and grief, consider well what you are about, consider that to me your answer is either life or death, and be assured that if you sacrifice me to my sister's fortune, you will repent when it is too late; the phantoms that now mislead you will vanish at once; you will perceive with horror the effects of your delusion, and feel the pangs of remorse when they are aggravated by despair; but further conversation will only ratify my destruction by encreasing

your resentment; permit me therefore to withdraw, and do not give your final answer till to-morrow. But remember that if I perish you will be wretched; and that in refusing mercy to your daughter you give sentence against yourself. With these words she left the parlour.

Carantani, whose eyes the last sentence might have opened, disregarded it as one of those wild menaces which are usually the last resource of a passion increased by opposition, and exasperated by despair. The preparations for *Victoria's* marriage engrossed his attention, and he thought of nothing but how to render it splendid and magnificent. The relations who were invited to this double ceremony, were already assembled in the church of the convent, and *Olympia* was dressed in her richest apparel and most splendid ornaments, which at these times are put on only to be renounced forever with the greater solemnity. The dreadful moment arrived in which this blooming victim was to be conducted to the altar: then knowing that she had nothing further to hope, yet concealing her despair, she asked leave of the nuns who were about her to go up into her cell under pretence of recollecting herself for a few minutes and meditating in private upon the important affair which she was about to transact. This was readily granted, and *Olympia* went up, not into her cell, but into a garret which was over it, and after having deplor'd her misfortunes and prayed to God for pardon, she fasten'd to one of the beams a cord, which she had taken from

one of the nuns who used it for a girdle, put it about her neck, threw herself from a little bench on which she stood, and in a few minutes expired.

In the mean time the company, who had been almost an hour assembled in the church, waited with impatience for the beginning of the ceremony. The abbess was acquainted with it, who was equally surprized at the delay, and asking the nuns the reason of it, was informed of *Olympia's* request: they waited almost an hour longer, but still *Olympia* did not appear. They then went to seek her in her cell, but there she was not to be found, other parts of the convent were searched but without success. At length, after much time spent in a fruitless enquiry, one of the nuns thought of going up into the garret. What a mournful! what a horrid spectacle was there!—The unfortunate *Olympia* hanging in the fatal cord with which she had put an end to her life.

Seized with horror at the ghastly sight, she ran precipitately down stairs, and rushing into the choir where the nuns were assembled, she filled them with terror and astonishment, by her outcries and lamentations. The alarm soon spread itself from the choir to the church, where all the relations with the utmost consternation received the news of the sudden death of the unhappy *Olympia*, the most shocking circumstances of which the abbess prudently concealed. At first they would not believe it; they demanded a sight of her, and going out of the church in a body, the ladies and *Carantani* himself (this privilege being granted to fa-

thers

thers) entered the convent, notwithstanding the resistance of the abbess and nuns. What a spectacle was this for a father, for a sister, for a whole family! One of the most amiable young women, the victim of a violent despair, all the horror of which was yet visible in her countenance!

Great as Carantoni's obduracy had hitherto been, he now burst into tears, and became frantic with despair. He accused himself too late as the murderer of his daughter, and stung with this tormenting thought, which was but too much the suggestion of truth, he fled from the convent, and even from the city, with the greatest precipitation. He mounted his horse with a design to conceal his shame, his grief, and his remorse, in the obscurity of a country seat. But heaven design'd him for a publick example. He had scarce rode six miles, when his horse taking fright threw him, and his foot hanging in the stirrup, he suffer'd a death yet more dreadful than that of his unhappy daughter. Dragg'd by his horse, which ran full speed, every limb was broken, and his body covered with wounds and bruises. But divine justice seem'd to extend itself even to his carcase after he was dead, the head and arms of which were at length intirely torn off; nor did the horse stop till he got home. Who can conceive the horror and consternation of his family, when they saw the horse furiously galloping, and dragging after him the torn and bloody trunk! *Victoria*, who was an eye witness of this dreadful event, could not sustain the complicated calamity, which was thus heaped upon her, on the very day

in which she expected to have been compleatly happy. The death of her sister, and of her father, attended with uncommon circumstances of horror, and the loss of her lover, who refused to enter into an alliance with a family which suicide had dishonoured, made so deep an impression upon her mind, that she died two days after, and closed that series of disastrous events, which afford an ever-memorable instruction to parents with respect to their conduct towards their children.

Immediately following we have the opinion of the compiler concerning *Gill Blas*. He observes, after enumerating the incidents of the comedy—

"Such are the incidents of *Gill Blas*; a play of which the publick has been long in expectation; and as the author was known, it is doing him some honour to say they were disappointed: for where no abilities are acknowledged, no entertainment can be hoped; and where there is no hope, there can be no disappointment.

To animadvert upon a piece which is almost universally condemned, is unnecessary, and to defend this is impossible.

There is not one elegant expression, or moral sentiment in the dialogue; nor indeed one character in the drama, from which either could be expected. It is however to be wished that the *town*, which opposed this play with so much zeal, would exclude from the theatre every other in which there is not more merit; for partiality and prejudice will always be suspected in the treatment of new plays, while such pieces as the

the *London Cuckolds*, and the *City Wives Confederacy*, are suffered to waste the time, and debauch the morals of society.

Perhaps, indeed, the ill success of this comedy, is chiefly the effect of the author's having so widely mistaken the character of *Gil Blas*; whom he has degraded from a man of sense, discernment, true humour, and great knowledge of mankind, who never discovered his vanity but in circumstances, in which every man would have been vain, to an impertinent, silly, conceited coxcomb, a mere *Lying Katter*, with all the affectation of a fop, and all the insolence of a coward. But tho' he was not at liberty to degrade *Gil Blas*, some applause is certainly due to him for having changed the character of *Isabella*. In the novel, she is a woman of virtue; and *Aurora's* stratagem to deprive her of the affection of *Don Lewis*, whom the tenderly lov'd, is so base and cruel, that a good mind regrets her success, and a bad one is encouraged to imitation: but in the play she is a prostitute, that needed only to be known to be hated; and *Aurora* is no more than an instrument in the discovery of her true character.

By the additions of two principal characters, *Don Gabriel* and *Don Felix*, and the incidents which they produce, the story is greatly improved; and by *Aurora's* passing for a twin-brother, rather than a cousin, the deception is carried on with greater probability.

Upon the whole, the author appears to have intended rather entertainment than instruction, and to have disguised the pit, by

adapting his comedy to the taste of the galleries."

I believe few people will agree with him in thinking the author has mended the story: there is a most strange jumble by this means at the end of the play; and whereas *Aurora*, in the original story, generously discovers herself, here she appears in a sneaking shameful light, mean and insignificant. Let us see what the writers of the *Review* say on this head.

THE comedy of *Gil Blas* was acted nine nights; a run it principally owed to the tenderness of the town; for even any endeavour to please it, and to the perseverance of the manager. It is not by this insinuated, that the piece has not some, though not the sort of merit, proper to find favour on a *British*, or indeed any other theatre.

The story, as well as the name, is taken from one of the volumes of *Gil Blas de Santillan*; the author of which, *M. Le Sage*, wrote likewise for the stage, and probably would have made use of this story himself for a dramatic composition, had he judged it a proper one, or the characters fit for theatrical representation.

But it does not seem, at least according to the prejudices prevailing in this country, that the heroine of the play is quite a decent character. A young lady of quality and fashion, left to her own conduct, in the absence of a brother in the army, falls in love, at first sight, with a young scholar, just come to town from the university;

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verity; informs herself of his character, which is that of a compleat rake; undeterred, however, for what cannot almighty love overrule? She puts herself and her maid in breeches, and scampers after him to the university, where, with the ministry of *Gil Blas*, who gives his name to the play, in virtue of his saying a great deal, and doing very little, at least to the unravelment of the plot, she plays off several stratagems, home-spun enough too, towards getting herself this husband. How consistent this courting of a young fellow may be with propriety, in *Spain*, where the scene is laid, is not here enquir'd into; but it cannot be surely so agreeable to the delicacy of the *English* ladies. Her character is indeed kept up to the last, as in the following extract, at the winding up.

Don Felix (to Don Lewis Pacheco) *And would you marry this wild thing?*

D. L. *With her own consent, 'tis my only wish.*

D. F. *What says Aurora?*

Aur. *Only that I love him, Sir, —and should break my heart, if he would not have me.*

D. L. *My frank Aurora!*

Aur. *I am a very honest mad-cap, Sir, as you see I loved you, and therefore pursued you. If I have step'd a little out of my sex to make sure of you, let love be my excuse.*

Love excuses indeed a great many irregularities; but one may, without any over-severity, pronounce, that a forwardness of this consequence, may be more pardonable in a novel than on the stage,

where characters are given for examples. But this impropriety is the more glaring from the *immundo* in the epilogue, that it is in this play that decency is exclusively to be found; else why the following lines?

Of beaux and politics, and such like stuff,

And even of tawdry too, you've had enough —

Of all degrees, from courtier to the cit,

Such stale dull jokes have been so often writ,

That nothing can be new—but decency and wit.

Another instance of decency. The fine gentleman of the play, the rake, or man of gallantry; Don Lewis Pacheco too, and what is more, a *Spaniard*, is represented as drunk, to his mistress, a circumstance surely not much mitigated by his being so with bumpers swallowed to her health; but he is afterwards introduced on the stage reeling home; when will it be receivable to say the following speech is put with much wit or decency into his mouth? “*The devil's upon a frolick to night, and the rascal has kicked the streets out of their places.*” However, it is in this promising pickle, that his future brother-in-law sees him for the first time, and which cannot give him very favourable impressions of his sister's taste or discretion. So much for decency.

In the fifth act, whilst *Aurora* still passes for her brother, Don Lewis, who takes her for an officer in the army, strikes her hat off, after such language as *wretch, shuffler,*

shuffler, coward, and a treatment, which the audience's privity to the mistake, does not save from pain: Aurora picks up her hat with great composure; and though one would naturally suppose Don Lewis yet more indisposed to parry with her, by the contempt super-added to the motives of his passion, he stays to hear her remonstrances, and which, insignificant, or mistimed as they evidently are; he is of a sudden softened into a confession of his being in the wrong; and then Aurora of a sudden assumes an air of courage, and challenges satisfaction for the blow with as ill a grace, and as little meaning, as she had before shuffled it off.

The character of *Isabella* is not proper for comedy, which requires ridiculous, not base or wicked personages. She is quite abandoned; too low, and too infamous, to produce on the stage. The transition too of her rage against Don Gabriel for his detection of her prostitution, to her seeming reconciliation with him, in favour of her revenge, is forced and unnatural. It is doing her too much honour to allow her jealousy enough to require Don Lewis's blood, just after he has found her not only confessing she was *whor'd* by his friend, but the aggressor in an intrigue with a footman. This was one of the passages the audience groaned over, and in which the author could not complain of *enemies*, unless he gave that title to his natural judges.

Even the character of *Gil Blas* is greatly disfigured. *Le Sage*, who has so finely painted human life, in the course of adventures which the shift of services, and conditions he

conducts *Gil Blas* through, so naturally introduces, no where makes the most abject cowardice a part of it. But in this comedy, he is painted as a pragmatist, flippant, saucy valet, thrusting in his word, often upon no occasion. Yet most excessively fearful, and afraid of his bones. As to his conceitedness of his person, and his mistake of Aurora's confidence, for love to himself, it is not only warranted by the original, but much improved from it, and the scene of his undeception is wrote with a life, spirit, and humour, which were admirably done justice to, by Mr. Garrick's action.

Upon the whole, the author seems to have more mistaken his *subject*, than his *genius* for comedy. There are beauties which sparkle through it, sufficient to intercede for the impropriety of the whole, and to promise better success, on a better chosen argument.

On my word, gentlemen, said HILARIO, I think the opinion of the council at George's, the fittest criticism on such a play: 'tis here in the *London Magazine*.

S I R,

During the run of *Gil Blas*, we, out of christian love and charity, suspended publishing our opinion of it, which is highly incumbent on us to do, in order to express our resentment to that insolent prerogative, which all along contemptuously shewed itself, by a blustering set of three-shilling wits, and noisy friends to the author; as also to check that vanity and sufficiency which he himself mistakenly usurps in behalf of this

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unmeaning drama; and desire it may be printed accordingly.

By order of the committee,
George's Coffee-house,
Feb. 19, 1750.

CENSOR.

*The Opinion of the Council at
GEORGE'S concerning the Co-
medy of GIL BLAS.*

Oh, master M—RE,
You son of cubere,
I wish I had known your tricks before.
Drag. of Wantley.

After such mighty fufs and puff,
Was ever such confounded stuff!
There's nothing new, nor one thing
bright;

Nor any character polite.
The dialogue is all alike;
Nor scarce a sentiment to strike.
Vice shines, but its reward is blotted:
And as for moral—he forgot it.
What think you, Hal? saith, Tom! I
think,

'Twas wrote to get a little *chink*;
And if it gains the author's ends,
Then truly he may * *boast some friends*.
*Boast, Hal! why he may boast in-
deed!*

But all the while, 'tis *us* that feed:
And so perverted are the gains,
He feeds his belly, not his brains.

You know my wishy-washy horse—
Not to improve, may turn out worse.
The hint needs no great expla-
nation;

We'll print it for his information.
'Tis then, th' opinion, and advice
Of Us, whom he's bamboozled twice,
That should he make a *third* pre-
tence

To wit, or joke, or common sense;
And treat Us—at our own expence:
We're not of *beings* to be cram'd
It must—it will—it shall be damn'd,
Resolv'd, by what we've heard before,
Of such like sense—to have no more.

A, B, C, &c.

* *Vide prologue.*

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I think, said Mr. WATCH-
TIDE, you give too much time
to that play-affair.——Good
my friend, PALEMEDES, read
me part of the proceedings in the
political club, from the London
Magazine: for tho', as Sir LIO-
NEL observed, the speeches may
not be genuine, perchance we
may meet with some of the argu-
ments used on the debate.

Whether a clause ought not to be
added to the Mutiny-bill, for
preventing any non-commission of-
ficer's being broke, or reduced into
the ranks, or any officer or sol-
dier's being punished, but by the
sentence of a Court-Martial:
Which question was introduced
by C. Trebonius in a speech to
the following effect:

Mr. President,

S I R,

I Believe every gentleman will
admit, that one of the great
ends of our sitting here is, to take
care not only of the liberties and
properties of the people in general,
but of every man and every set of
men in particular; and there is
no set of men in the kingdom
whose liberties and properties we
ought to be more careful of, than
those of our soldiers and sailors,
both on account of their distin-
guished merit, and on account of
the danger accruing from their
being once brought into a state of
slavery; for if this should ever
happen, they will probably, and
may easily, enable some future
ambitious prince or prime minister
to bring the rest of their country-
men into the same condition with
them—

G—T—

themselves. When I talk of the liberty and property of soldiers and sailors, I do not mean, that they should be exempted from military law, or a military jurisdiction; for that, I know, is inconsistent with the service; and I likewise know, that whilst courts-martial preserve their integrity, a man's liberty and property is as safe under their jurisdiction, as under the jurisdiction of common law. He knows the laws, he knows the methods by which he is to be tried; and by a careful observance of his duty, he may prevent his being ever in danger of suffering by their sentence. What I mean, Sir, is a man's being subjected to the arbitrary will and pleasure of his commanding officer, and unavoidably exposed to the danger of suffering in his person or property, by the whimsical and unmerited resentment of such officer; for a man in these circumstances may truly be said to be a slave, and very often suffers for what he ought to be rewarded.

When I talk of the properties of soldiers, gentlemen may perhaps, Sir, make themselves merry with what I say; for I shall allow, that very few of them can ever arrive at any property; but I hope, it will be granted, that every officer, commissioned or non-commissioned, has some property. His office or rank is his property, as well as the pay which belongs to it; and it is a property, which we are to suppose, he has purchased by his service. I shall admit that this is not always the purchase; for in the army as well as in other departments, men are sometimes preferred for what they

ought to be cashiered; and some, I believe, especially of the non-commissioned officers, are raised (as one officer wittily said to another, who had a handsome wife) not by the sword but the scabbard. But in general, I hope, we may suppose, that no officer, not even a corporal, obtains his preferment but by the merit of his service, and that I must reckon a much more valuable consideration, at least with regard to the public, than if he had bought it at the highest price with his money. An officer's rank in the army, let it be what it will, I must therefore look on as his property; and this house ought to take care, that no man should be stripped of his property, unless he has been guilty of some very great crime, or some heinous neglect of duty.

But, Sir, with regard to the staff-officers, I do not know how a custom has prevailed in the army, that they are at the absolute disposal of the colonel of the regiment, and that he may, whenever he pleases, degrade them of the preferment they have thus purchased, and reduce them into the ranks, that is, reduce them again to the state and condition of a common soldier. When this custom was first introduced I cannot determine; but I think it was never established by any article of war, before the year 1747, when our usual articles of war underwent many and great alterations, most of which were unnecessary even for the strictest discipline, and could serve no purpose but that of vesting an absolute and despotic power in the chief commander of our army. In that remarkable

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year, indeed, this power of a colonel's reducing a non-commissioned officer to a private centinel, by his sole and absolute authority, was slipt into our articles of war, and now stands, I think, in the 16th article of the 15th section, relating to the *administration of justice*; which provides, that no commissioned officer shall be cashiered, or dismissed the service, except by his majesty's order, or by the sentence of a general court-martial, approved by him, or the commander in chief appointed by him; but that non-commissioned officers may be discharged as private soldiers, and may, *by the order of the colonel of the regiment*, or by the sentence of a regimental court-martial, be reduced to private centinels.

Now, Sir, this is really granting to the colonel a more arbitrary and greater power over the staff-officers in his regiment, than his majesty has over the commissioned officers in his army; for tho' his majesty may cashier such an officer by his sole authority, he cannot reduce him to a private centinel. If any such officer be cashiered, he is absolutely dismissed the service, and may betake himself to some other employment, or go into foreign service; but if a colonel takes a dislike, however whimsical, however unjust, to any staff-officer in his regiment, he may reduce him to a private centinel, and oblige him to serve, perhaps during the rest of his days, as a common soldier, in that very regiment where he once had a command; which is certainly a more severe punishment than that of discharging him from the service.

And tho' a serjeant or corporal of foot be commonly reckoned but a mean employment, I must observe, that a quarter-master of dragoons is but a staff-officer, and yet it is a post that I have known sold for 400 guineas, and a post that no gentleman, not otherwise provided for, would disdain to accept of.

From hence we may see, Sir, what a dependant slavish state all the non-commissioned officers of our army are in: Is it proper that any British subject, especially those of our army, should be continued in such a slavish state? Is it necessary for the service? If any non-commissioned officer should really be guilty of any crime, any neglect of duty, or any disrespect towards his colonel, can we suppose, that a regimental court-martial would not punish him as severely as he deserved? Why then leave in the colonel of a regiment, such an absolute and arbitrary power over that property, which men have purchased by their merit in the service of their country? But, Sir, it is not only the property of such officers, but their persons, and the person of every soldier in the army, that by custom are in some measure under the arbitrary power of the commanding officer, or at least of the commander in chief of an army. I do not say, that the commander in chief can by custom order a staff-officer or soldier to be put to death, or dismembered, without the sentence of a court-martial; but without any such sentence they have sometimes been very severely punished; and this is a power which ought not to be trusted, I think, with any

man whatsoever, especially as the offender may be immediately confined, and very quickly brought before a court-martial.

What is the end of punishment, Sir? Not merely resentment or revenge, I hope: Is it not, ought it not always to be inflicted as an example and a terror, for preventing others from being guilty of the like offence? How can it answer this end, when the offence is not publicly and certainly known? Is not this always the case, when it is inflicted by the sole arbitrary authority of the colonel, or commander in chief? He may publish his reason for punishing, and he may assign a justifiable reason; but mankind generally and rightly embrace the maxim, that every man ought to be presumed innocent till he is proved guilty. The army will therefore reason thus with themselves: If this was the true reason, why was not the man tried by a court-martial? Why was not the fact there proved against him? They will therefore conclude, that the reason assigned was not the true reason; and they will probably suppose a reason not much to the honour of him who ordered the punishment to be inflicted. Thus, Sir, a colonel or a commanding officer should, for the sake of his own character, as well as for the sake of example, never order any punishment to be inflicted, especially that of reducing a staff-officer to a centinel, but by the sentence of a court-martial.

Let us consider, Sir, that the success of our armies in time of war, depends as much upon the bravery of our common soldiers, as upon the bravery and conduct

of our officers; and that it is this alone which makes our troops superior to any equal number of those of France; for without being accused of disrespect, I believe, I may say, that the French officers are equal to our own both in conduct and courage. For this reason we should take care not to depreciate that which is the chief incitement to bravery in our common men. What is this incitement? An halbert, Sir, is almost the only reward, the highest preferment that a common soldier can expect. While this continues dependent upon the mere whim of a colonel, can it be such an incitement as it would be, were a man insured of holding it during life, unless justly deprived of it by a fair trial before a court-martial, for some heinous crime or neglect of duty?

Besides, Sir, I think, that for the safety of the commissioned officers in our army, this power which the colonel has over the staff-officers of his regiment ought to be abridged. Suppose a colonel should conceive a pique against some captain in his regiment, and should bring him to be tried by a court-martial for some pretended military crime, which might affect his honour, if not his life: The witnesses against him would probably be two or three serjeants or corporals of the same regiment; and when they know that they must either swear against the captain accused, or be reduced to private centinels, and obliged to serve for ever after as common soldiers in the regiment, could such a captain depend upon his innocence? could he expect that the crime

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crime would not be fully proved against him?

This is therefore, Sir, a power which may be of the most dangerous consequence to every officer in our army, below the rank of a colonel; and if we add to this, the power assumed by the commander in chief, to inflict severe punishments by his sole authority, we must admit, that all the staff-officers and soldiers of our army, are in a more slavish subjection than this house ought to endure any innocent *British* subject to be in. For this reason, Sir, I have prepared a clause to be added by way of rider to the bill now before you, for providing, that no non-commission officer shall be cashiered or reduced to a private centinel; and that no officer or soldier shall be punished, but by the sentence of a court martial; therefore I shall conclude with moving for leave to bring it up.

This Motion being seconded, and the Clause brought up and read, Q. Confidius, stood up and spoke in Substance as follows:

Mr. President,

SIR,

I Hope, I have as great a regard to the liberties and properties of the subject, as any gentleman in this house; but I think, that the liberties and properties, and even the religion of the people of this kingdom, depend upon our preserving a strict discipline in our army; and therefore I shall always be extremely cautious of introducing any new regulation, or abolishing any old custom relating to our army. The power which the

Mr. H—C—y.

colonel has over the serjeants and corporals of his regiment, I mean the power of creating and reducing them whenever he pleases, is a power coeval with our army; and while we have an army, I think, it is necessary that it should subsist. In advancing a common soldier to be a corporal, or a corporal to be a serjeant, the colonel generally takes the advice of the captain, in whose company such serjeant or corporal is wanted; and a man's knowledge of the exercise, his diligence in performing his duty, and his bravery, are the qualifications that usually recommend a common soldier to be a corporal, or a corporal a serjeant. But there are likewise other qualifications necessary, and qualifications that cannot be known till a man comes to be tried; therefore both the colonel and captain are often mistaken in their man; and when they find themselves so mistaken, it is absolutely necessary for the good of the service, that the colonel should have an unlimited power to reduce him again to a private centinel. Nay, a captain may find that he has got a very incapable or troublesome serjeant or corporal in his company, and yet it may be impossible for him to make his incapacity or troublesome-ness appear by proper proofs, to the satisfaction of a court-martial.

I must likewise observe, Sir, that as bravery, activity and diligence are necessary for recommending a soldier to the rank of a corporal or serjeant, so it is necessary, that after he is advanced to that rank, he should continue to be as brave, active, and diligent as

ever

ever he was before ; and yet, when he is advanced to the rank of a serjeant, which is, perhaps, the summit of his desires, or at least of his hopes, he may very naturally grow lazy and indolent, or perhaps in the day of battle take more care of his life than is consistent with his duty. For which reason, I think it is necessary for the service, that such officers should always remain under the apprehension of being reduc'd by their colonel, if they are guilty of the least cowardice, negligence or misbehaviour.

Whatever notions some gentlemen may have of absolute power, Sir, it has been thought necessary in all countries for preserving subordination and discipline in an army. In the *Roman* commonwealth, from its very first original, the generals of their armies had a most absolute and unlimited power over every officer and soldier in the army. They could not only prefer and reduce, but punish even with death itself, by their sole authority, and without the sentence of any court-martial. The story of *Manlius*, who put his own son to death for fighting the enemy against his orders, is so well known, that I need not put gentlemen in mind of it. Not only particular men, but whole armies were among the *Romans* subject to be punished by the sole and absolute power of their general : for we read that *Appius*, in the very infancy of that commonwealth, caused every tenth man in his army to be whipped, for flying from the enemy ; besides punishing some of the officers with death. And, I believe, there is now no

country in the world, where their armies enjoy so much freedom, or so much security against being oppressed by their commanders, as both the officers and soldiers of our *British* army enjoy.

But in this, Sir, as in most other things, there is an extreme, there is a *ne plus ultra* ; for if you extend this freedom and security too far, you will destroy all discipline and subordination in your army ; and I am afraid, that what is now proposed, will be running into that extreme, without so much as a pretended necessity : for tho' this power of reducing staff-officers to private centinels, has been enjoyed by every colonel in our army time out of mind, yet there has never been so much as one complaint of its having been made a bad use of, or applied to any wicked purpose ; and indeed, if it is ever exercised, it is always at the desire of the captain of the company, to which the serjeant or corporal belongs, and after an examination into the complaints against him ; so that the colonel really acts as judge in the affair, and is as good and as impartial a judge, as any regimental court-martial can be supposed to be.

As this has always been the practice in our army, Sir, I must presume, that the hopes of an halbert will be as great an incitement for common soldiers to behave well, as it would be, were the clause now offered made part of this bill ; for when once they have got an halbert, they are now sure of keeping it as long as they perform their duty, and surely no gentleman will desire that they should hold it any longer. But if this clause should

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be passed into a law, I am afraid it would have one of these two bad effects: the staff-officers would trust so much to this security, that they would behave negligently, and if courts-martial acted with rigour, more of them would be cashiered or reduced, than ever was so by our colonels: on the other hand, if courts-martial did not act with rigour, and never punish one, unless he was guilty of some heinous crime or egregious neglect, the posts of serjeant or corporal would become a sort of civil employment, and would, I fear, be too often sold to the highest bidder; which would in a short time render our army little better than a common militia.

As to the danger which officers under the rank of a colonel may be exposed to, by staff-officers bearing false witness against them, at the instigation of their colonel, it appears to me to be altogether imaginary; for the danger of suborning witnesses to give false evidence is so great, that no colonel, nor any one for him, would ever attempt it; and should he attempt it, and succeed so far as to find two or three men abandoned enough to undertake it, by being examined apart, and artfully cross-questioned, the falshood of their evidence would probably be detected, and they punished for their perjury, which could hardly fail of bringing on a discovery, or at least a strong suspicion of subordination; and no colonel under such a suspicion could expect to hold a commission in the army, as it is, and I hope, will always be in the king's power to dismiss such a colonel

from the service; for the officers of the army, as *Cæsar* said to his wife, should be not only innocent, but free from suspicion.

Then, Sir, as to what the honourable gentleman observed about the end of punishment, he should consider, that reducing a serjeant or corporal to a private centinel, is not properly a punishment, but the removing a man from a post which experience has shewn him not to be fit for; and that experience must be known to the whole regiment, as well as to the colonel of the regiment, or the captain of the company he belongs to. Should a serjeant or corporal be guilty of any crime, or of any criminal neglect of duty, the colonel would not certainly content himself with removing him, but would order him to be tried by a regimental court-martial, in which case the offence would be proved, and the punishment would be an example; but when no such criminal matter is alledged against him, when nothing is alledged but only a natural stupidity, or a natural want of understanding, which renders him unfit for any thing in the army above that of a common soldier, there is no occasion for any proof, or for any punishment by way of example.

To conclude, Sir, the power which the colonel has over the staff-officers, has subsisted for above sixty years, without any complaint of abuse; and as no one can know what may be the effect of abolishing it, I hope the honourable gentleman will excuse me, for denying my approbation of the clause he has been pleased to offer.

I have a little piece here said HILARIO, smiling, more to your taste I believe Mr. WATCH-TIDE: 'Tis an account of the shipwreck of the *Nottingham Galley*, from the *BRITISH MAGAZINE*.

S I R,

AS the enclosed narrative of the shipwreck of the *Nottingham Galley*, and the preservation of the greatest part of her crew, contains a series of facts, marvellous in their kind and worthy to be remembered, your inserting it in your valuable collection, cannot but be acceptable to every reader, who has curiosity to know how far the powers of humanity may be exerted, when life is at stake, and how much men are capable of doing and suffering, when properly animated and encouraged, before they finally perish through want or despair. The incidents that are here related are so very singular, that they would scarce gain credit with the public, were it not for the known veracity of Capt. *Deane* the reporter. This gentleman, who is at present honoured with a national employment abroad, was himself a sharer in the distress he has endeavoured to represent; but words can convey only a faint idea of sufferings, when these exceed the ordinary degrees of our conception. Let it suffice, however, to engage the reader's belief and attention, that Capt. *Deane* is now making provision for the annual commemoration of this wonderful deliverance, in *New England*, as nearest to the principal scene of action: and that in such a manner, as may best tend to reclaim the unthinking

part of that class of men, who are most exposed to accidents of the like kind,

I am, Sir, Yours, &c.

The NARRATIVE.

THE *Nottingham Galley*, of and from *London*, 120 tons, 10 guns, and 14 men, Capt. *Deane* commander, sailed on a trading voyage for *New England*, on the 25th of *September*, 1710; but meeting with contrary winds and bad weather, it was the eleventh of *December* following, before they descried the land, which was then covered with snow; and which in a quarter of an hour they again lost sight of, without knowing what part of the coast they had seen. The fogs and hazy weather had prevented their taking an observation for ten or twelve days; and the unaccountable currents there met with; had confused their reckoning: however the wind being N. E. and the land lying N. E. and S. W. they determined to steer S. W. till ten at night, and then lie by till morning; but about eight, Capt. *Deane* being himself upon deck, to his infinite surprise, saw the breakers a-head very near him; and instantly calling out to the steersman *hard a-starboard*, was so ill obeyed in the astonishment, as to have the reverse performed; so the ship struck violently against a rock, called *Boone Island*, about seven leagues eastward of *Piscataqua* river. The night was dark and the sea ran high; the vessel labouring excessively, soon heaved along side the rock; and in this extremity of horror, cutting the masts by the board was the only chance of safety; which being effected, the masts fortunately fell

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right towards the rock. The mate who before was ill, so suddenly recovered, as to make the first essay to land, and was followed by two of the best swimmers, who all got safe to shore. The captain being eager to save some papers and effects of value, was earnest in that business, when the ship bulging gave him but just time to endeavour his escape.

On quitting the wreck his body was dashed against the rock with impetuous force, and the flesh and nails of his fingers torn off in catching hold to prevent being washed away by the next revolving wave. The rest of the crew landed with much less difficulty.

Being all assembled, their first care was to seek for shelter from the extremity of the cold and snow: but to their great misfortune found none, the place on which they were, being a mere rock, without a shovel full of earth upon it; and liable to be overflowed every spring tide. How melancholy, then, must even this first night, be exposed, wet as they were, to the inclemency of the heavens, and the horrors of darkness for ten long tedious hours together? Nor was their misery much alleviated by the approach of day; for to their unspeakable sorrow, they beheld only the shattered remains of their broken vessel, floating upon the raging ocean, equally unserviceable and inaccessible. Their provisions were all swallowed up, except a few fragments of cheese cast ashore and tho' beaten to a paste by the fury of the waves, were yet carefully picked up by the people. Pieces of masts, sails, and broken cordage, all entangled in the ca-

bles, and restrained by the anchor, were seen floating to and fro at a distance, and at infinite hazard brought to land. Some planks, timber, canvas, and other materials were likewise recovered; of all which they made a proper use. Fire becoming their next care, they sought to procure this blessing by various means, as flint, steel, and gunpowder, and afterwards by a drill of very swift motion; but all the combustibles in their possession being thoroughly water-soaked, baffled every attempt.

Their first enterprize of moment was erecting a tent capacious enough just to hold them all, covered with sails and canvas, and strowed with picked oakum for bedding. On the top of which a staff was fixed with a piece of white cloth, to facilitate a discovery. While their tent was erecting, they stowed one upon another for warmth under the canvass; but as after a shipwreck, all command ceases, several disputes arose, even in this little company, and in this calamitous state, which, had they been suffered to increase, must have terminated in their utter ruin; and therefore, it was found necessary to elect a head, and to invest him with the chief direction. Their old commander was accordingly appointed, who henceforward exercised some authority, but not without the general concurrence.

On the 4th day the cook, unused to such severities, died; and the corpse being placed near low-water mark, the flowing tide carried it away; none so much as hinting to reserve it for sustenance; for as yet they were strangers to the exquisite torture of excessive hunger, having

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their allowance of cheese equally divided amongst them, to each about half a pound a day, with ice or snow water as much as they required. Those who laboured, kept their blood warm, and preserved a due circulation; whereas the cold so benumbed and discoloured the hands and feet of the unactive, as to endanger a mortification; and those who quitted the wreck in boots, had blisters on their legs and feet to such a degree, that the skin came off with the nails of their toes.

Having finished the tent, their next undertaking was building a boat out of the timber and plank that had parted from the wreck, having for tools the blade of a cut-fath made into a saw, their knives, a hammer, and a caulking mallet. Some nails they found in the cists of the rock, and others they drew out of the sheathing. Three planks were laid flat for the bottom, and two vertically on each side, fixed to stanchings, and let into the bottom timbers, with two short pieces at each end; they caulked her with oakum drawn from old junk, and secured the seams with canvas, pump-leather, and sheet-lead; one breadth of *Holland* duck surrounded the whole to keep out the spray of the sea; a short mast was fixed with a square sail; seven paddles were provided for rowing, and an eighth longer than the rest, for steering; all this was accomplished by the captain and two more, while the carpenter and the rest were so enfeebled and sick, as not to be able to give any assistance.

A week had now elapsed without any other sustenance than the cheese already mentioned, except

the bones of three pieces of beef rendered eatable by pounding, whose flesh the fish had almost entirely consumed before cast on shore, when at a distance they saw three boats under sail, as they thought, hastening to their deliverance. Sick and lame, all crept out, to view the joyful sight; and with horrible cries strove to alarm their attention; but in vain, for they neither heard nor discovered them. This disappointment greatly aggravated their despair. Their boat was now the only remaining hope. Their stock of cheese was near exhausted, and the spring tide daily apprehended that was to overflow their island, the whole length whereof was but 100 yards, and its breadth about 50. In this critical instant, the carpenter's axe was cast upon the rock, and with it they completed their boat. It was then consulted who should adventure in her first; and the captain, his brother, the mate, and four others were approv'd; and then all assisted in launching her. This was about the 21st of *December*, not being able to determine to a day, for it is incredible to relate how much the impression of their misfortunes had already impaired their memories, insomuch that they were not only uncertain of the day of the month, but had even forgot the day of the week. Tho' the weather was clear and fine, and the water smoother than usual, yet the swell was so great, that as soon as the boat was launched, she was heaved along shore and staved to pieces, and the captain and another that had got on board, narrowly escaped drowning. And now again returned with re-

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doubled horror, all the anxieties which had been a while suspended during the mighty expectations they had formed from their boat. No fire, and the weather extreme cold; their hands and feet frozen to a degree of mortification; several with large deep ulcers very offensive to the smell; their small stock of cheese spent, and nothing left to sustain their perishing bodies but kelp, a rockweed growing under water, and muscles, so difficult to get as not to allow, at most, above three a-day for each man: In this state, pinched with cold and hunger, groaning under disease and pain, with torture and horror of mind from the most terrible apprehensions of approaching death, they abandoned themselves to such a wild despair, that the sufferers themselves find it impossible, at this distance of time, to revive in their minds an adequate idea of their extreme misery. Yet in no instance the hand of providence was more visibly extended in their favour, than in this: for at night a storm arose, in which had they been at sea, they must all have inevitably perished. In this extremity, the mate had the good fortune to strike down a gull, which being equally divided, was eagerly devoured, raw as it was, by all. At their first landing, these and other sea fowl roosted upon the rock; and the captain frequently went out at the dead of night, in hopes of surprizing the seals that harboured there; but found, to his surprize and regret, that every living creature had forsaken the island when man had got possession of it.

In these trying circumstances

the last resource of human wit was to compose a raft, capable of bearing two men; a project mightily urged by a *Swede*, a stout, brave fellow, who tho' he had lost the use of his feet, was yet in perfect health. During the five or six days in which this work was completing, the *Swede* frequently importuned the captain to accompany him in the enterprize; but in vain. The attempt appeared to him too hazardous, but he concealed his reasons; and another undertook the task without reflecting on the danger. In the mean time they descried a sail coming out of *Piscataqua* river, to whom they endeavoured to manifest themselves by all possible devices; but the wind being N. W. and the ship standing to the eastward, was presently out of sight. This redoubled the eagerness of the *Swede* to try his fortune on the raft, which being ready to launch, wanted only a favourable opportunity to put to sea. In constructing this raft, they split the fore yard of the ship, and constituting the two parts for the side-pieces, 12 feet long, interfixed spars, covered with the lightest plank, four feet broad, first spiking them, then seizing them firm; a short mast was also fixed with a sail made of two hammocks; and a paddle was provided for each man, and a spare one made fast to the raft in case of need. Some few days passing, and the wind still proving unfavourable, the *Swede* and his companion grew impatient of delay; but one afternoon the weather proving moderate, and the wind setting right on shore, they persisted in pursuing their enterprize:

accordingly the raft was launched, and both being set upon it, the swell overset the raft as heretofore the boat, and away went the mast and sail; the *Swede* being an excellent swimmer, recovered the shore, and little regarded it; but the other unskilled in that art, continued some time under water, and when got out, was too much discouraged to make a second essay. The hardy *Swede* remained inflexible, being resolved to perish in the sea, rather than linger one day more in that miserable situation; another animated by his example, offered to share his fate. The raft was turned, and both were put upon it, and committed to the mercy of the seas. Their words at parting were very moving, *Pray for our poor souls, and God have mercy upon yours.* About sun-set they judged them half way to land, rowing very successfully; but in the night a storm arose, and two days after the raft was found on shore, and distant from it about a mile the other man, having his paddle still fast to his wrist, and so much worn, as shewn he had laboured hard; but the bold *Swede* was never seen more.

Capt. *Deane* had appointed these adventurers, in case they reached the shore alive, to cause a fire to be made on a certain hill, as a signal of their escape; and two days after a smook arising from that quarter, and daily continuing, tho' upon a different occasion, was yet interpreted as a token of speedy deliverance. This flush of hope revived their sinking spirits; and the spring tide, so justly dreaded, having passed without any other incon-

venience than depriving them for a time of the muscles whereon they lived, they employed themselves in picking oakum to cover and make warm their tent.

Towards the latter end of *December*, the carpenter, a fat man, naturally of a dull, heavy, phlegmatic constitution, died; and in the morning Capt. *Deane* ordered his corpse to be removed, but nobody offered to obey him; and, after observing an unusual air of intentness in all the people, Mr. *Whiteworth*, a young gentleman, his mother's darling son, delicately bred amidst so great an affluence as to despise common food, as he then with remorse of conscience acknowledged, began, in the name of the rest, to court the captain's concurrence in converting the human carcase into the matter of their nourishment; and was immediately seconded by a great majority, three only opposing. While this was in agitation, part of a green hide was found newly thrown up by the sea, which being minced and divided amongst them, was soon devoured with a voracious appetite. And the cravings of hunger grew so strong, that Capt. *Deane*, tho' the proposal appeared amazingly shocking, was obliged to comply. A few thin slices washed in salt water, were at first brought into the tent, and given to every one in small portions, with a good deal of rockweed to supply the place of bread. The first piece Captain *Deane* eat, was part of the gristles that compose the breast, having the flesh scraped clean off; for his stomach, as yet, abominated the loathsome food, tho' his importunate appetite had

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had more than once, led him to survey, with a longing eye, the extremities of his sore fingers, and a day or two before had compelled him to taste his own excrements. The mate and the two other opposers, refused to partake of the flesh the first night, but next morning were glad to beg an equal share with the rest, who now began to devour it in a rapacious manner, and craved greater quantities than consisted with prudence to allow. In a few days, lame and infirm as they were, the captain found himself obliged to remove the quarters, and to exercise all the authority he had taken at their request, over them, which their present impotence, and his comparative strength, empowered him to maintain; for on a sudden, he perceived an alteration in their dispositions, infinitely for the worse, from a quiet, peaceable, affectionate temper; a resigned submissive, religious frame of mind, the majority grew fierce, brutish, barbarous, impatient in their afflictions, and refractory to command, using ill language, oaths and imprecations, so that the captain almost repented he had not turned the dead carcase adrift, instead of reserving it for food; however, this deportment convinced him of the absolute necessity of keeping a strict watch over the remainder of the body, since he had reason to apprehend future want would drive them to sacrifice one another's lives to their inexorable hunger; and the prolongation of their miseries, a few days, would infallibly have terminated in this dreadful event.

The close of the old year left

them in a most forlorn condition; the captain's brother attacked with convulsive fits, and frozen in several fingers; Mr. *Whitworth*, his friend, in both his feet; the rest of the people, half frozen, more than half famished, distempered, ulcerous, despairing, unable to help themselves; yet murmuring, prophane, and blasphemous. In a word, labouring under a complication of the greatest evils, cold, disease, famine, prospect of death, and dread of damnation.

But providence was graciously pleased to shew mercy; for on the 2d of *January*, in the morning, as the captain was creeping out of the tent, he saw a shallop half way from shore, standing directly towards the rock. To express the raptures diffused throughout the whole company, upon the prospect of so sudden and unexpected a deliverance, exceeds the powers of tongue and mind; 'twas life from the dead. At flood the vessel coming nigh, cast anchor in a commodious place, and hoisting out a small canoe, one man came off, and gaining the rock, the captain assisted to haul the boat on shore, and perceiving no catables therein, enquired of the man, if he could help him to fire? he replied in the affirmative. Several other questions were alternately resolved, as, what day of the week it was, &c. and, in particular, a relation made of the manner of finding the raft and dead corpse, which moved the government to send them out on the present design. Arriving at the tent, he was perfectly affrighted at the ghastly figure of so many dismal

dismal objects, with long beards, nothing but skin and bone; wild staring eyes, and countenances, fierce, barbarous, unwashed, and infected with human gore. After kindling a fire, with much labour, the captain accompanied the man to his boat, and both getting in, the sea drove the canoe with such force against the rock, as overset her; and the captain narrowly escaped drowning. The good man making a second attempt alone, recovered the shallop with difficulty; promising to come again next day better provided, if the weather permitted.

Now, as an allay to their joy, they beheld the shallop standing off without them; and the next day proving stormy, renewed their apprehensions. But when they were again reduced to so low an ebb in the article of provisions, that the whole remainder of the carcase was allotted for the next repast, it pleased God, the wind abated, and early on the 4th they were agreeably surprized at the report of a musquet, from a shallop near the rock; and in two hours time were all carried on board to their inexpressible joy. The first sustenance they received, was a bit of bread and a dram of rum each, and soon after a mess of water-gruel, which was excellently accommodated to their condition.

By eight at night they landed, and the captain being shewed his lodgings, ran directly in, to the terrible affrightment of the gentlewoman and her children, he being emaciated to a skeleton. And lodgings, food, and nurseries

being provided for the people, they were charitably entertained during their infirmity, and cloaths, linen and woollen, given them upon their recovery, all at the public expence. A limited diet and requisite purges being administered, in process of time all recovered, tho' every one, excepting the captain, lost the use of fingers or toes, or some other part of his body; and in particular the captain's boy suffered the loss of a foot.

At the conclusion of this, and if I misjudge not, HILARIO, said Mr. WATCHTIDE, I have a piece here more to your taste; 'tis in the *London Magazine*.

A LETTER from a Librarian of Geneva, concerning an extraordinary Dispensation of Pope Clement VI. Translated from the French.

S I R,

YOU acquaint me, that you have been reading M. de la Chapelle's treatise on the necessity of public worship. Among your remarks on this reading, you tell me, that you were extremely surprized at a dispensation, seen amongst the vouchers at the end of the work, granted by Clement VI. in the year 1351, to John king of France, and to queen Joan his second wife; which brief or bull gives to the king's and the queen's confessor, a power to absolve them for the past and for the future, from all their engagements and contracts, tho' backed by an oath, if they could not keep them with-

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out some inconveniency *. This favour is not only for them, but also for their successors in perpetuity, on condition only, that their confessor shall commute these oaths into such works of piety as he shall think proper.

You were struck, you say, with the singularity of this brief; and one cause of your surprize is the general silence of our controversialists, who seem to have been entirely ignorant of it. It does not appear that any one had made use of it against the Roman church, altho' it had been published near a century†. You add, that this bull would deserve to be made better known, and that you do not think what M. de la Chapelle has said of it incidentally, is sufficient.

You also desire me to tell you what I think of it, and even to be pretty large upon it. It would not be difficult to make an ample commentary upon this bull, had one a mind to reprove all that is offensive in it. But many people believe, that as to these sort of pieces, a bare mention of the substance of them is sufficient to excite all the indignation they deserve. However, to satisfy you, I will enter into some detail, were it only to have the pleasure of your correspondence.

You say, that all in this act has surpris'd you, both its singularity and the obscurity in which it has lain to this time. I will tell you, first of all, that it was far from making the same impression upon

me, because I had known of this piece near 30 years, at least in substance; and in this manner. Having the honour, at London, one day to dine at Dr. Barrow's, bishop of Salisbury, five or six months before his death, with some men of learning, and amongst others the famous Dr. Hoadley, bishop of Bangor, the bishop, at whose house we were, acquainted us with this extraordinary bull. He told us the contents of it, and quoted to us as his warrant Dom Luke d'Acheri, who has related it entire. When I returned into my own country, I searched for this piece in the Benedictines large collection, but did not know where to find it. Do not be surpris'd: It is, as it were, buried and stifled amongst a heap of useless things collected together in the volume where it is inserted. This, probably, is the reason why it has escaped our controversialists.

Rightly to judge of this dispensation to K. John, it will not be useless to stop some moments, to see what mankind in general have thought of an oath.

The ancient heathen always looked upon the promises made with an oath as inviolable. These engagements were sacred to them, and they were religious observers of them. It is true, they wisely distinguished the promises with an oath which had been extorted by force, from those which they had made freely. It was also a principle with them, that they could

* *Juramenta per vos prestita, & per vos & eos prestanda in posterum, quibus & illi servare commode non possent.*

† See the *spicilegium* of Dom Luke d'Acheri, at Paris, 4to, tom. 4. p. 275.

not engage themselves by an oath in any thing but what was good and commendable, and if the engagement they had entered into was bad in itself, from thence they looked upon it as null. In those cases, far from being obliged to keep their word, they declared without evasion that they were obliged to break it. In consequence of this rule *Cicero*, in his Offices, affirms, that *Agamemnon* was doubly guilty, both for engaging himself by an oath to sacrifice his daughter *Iphigenia*, and for having sacrificed her by virtue of that engagement*.

Excepting these cases, they highly condemned all the pretences to authorise perjury. One of the first subterfuges for this infidelity, is the inconveniency, the damage, one may suffer by keeping his word, the promises *quæ commodè servare non possent*, as expressed in the brief. But the wise heathen decided, that, in any case, not only the inconveniency, but the damage, how great soever it might be, could not justify a breach of faith. They alledged an instance, which seemed to them decisive, that of *Regulus*. Never man by keeping his oath could have expected more terrible consequences. He knew the cruel torments which were preparing for him at Carthage. Nevertheless, he does not hesitate to return thither, because he had engaged himself by oath to do it.

I believe, Sir, I ought here to put you in mind of a reflection which *Cicero* makes in the same

book of his Offices: Which is, that after this extraordinary event, they were not even very much struck at Rome with the magnanimity of this great man; the common sentiment was, that he had done no more than he ought to do. His action did not begin to be very much noticed, till the corruption of the following ages. It was among the Romans therefore an opinion generally received, that rather than break one's oath, one ought to be ready to brave all that is dreadful in banishment, imprisonment and torments.

The Jews having much sounder ideas of the Deity, have also had a very great respect for an oath. I desire you, Sir, only to read over again the 15th Psalm, where *David* sets forth the character of the good man, who may hope to enjoy the effects of the love of God both in this life and in the other. "Lord, says he, who is he who shall dwell in thy tabernacle?" He answers, "He, whose life is upright and whose actions are just. If he has sworn, were it to his damage, he will not change any thing of his promise."

After we have seen what the heathen and the Jews have thought of an oath, to compare it with the loose brief of *Clement VI.* we might shew, that the christians, who have much more sublime ideas of the perfections of God than the others, ought also to carry their respect for an oath much farther. But, Sir, not to insist upon such a known subject, I shall content myself with opposing to the scanda-

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ious dispensation of this pope, a fine lesson, which the Abbé de Guet gives in his institution of a prince.

“An oath is a last remedy to put an end to contests, says he, to assure ourselves of the heart of men, and of their intentions, to fix all the doubts which inconsistency or insincerity may create, to subject kings to the supreme Judge who alone can judge them, and to keep in duty all human majesty, by making it appear before the majesty of God, in regard to whom it is nothing. To violate a treaty therefore, confirmed by an oath, would be eternizing dissidences and wars, taking away all means of coming to peace by serious treaties, leaving a door always open to surprizes, rendering the situation of kingdoms floating and uncertain, abusing what religion has of the most sacred and the most formidable, and falling into a manifest impiety, by despising at the same time the presence, the truth, the justice and the power of God *.”

Pray hear likewise what this wise author says of those who insinuate to a prince, that he may sometimes dispense with keeping treaties, tho’ accompanied with an oath. “A man must be, I will not say very bold, adds he, but very blind and very corrupt, to dare to advise a prince to make himself liable to the eternal wrath of God, and to draw down vengeance upon his own head, and

upon the heads of the whole nation, by converting an oath into perjury, and by despising the irrevocable threatening annexed in the decalogue to the prohibition of so great a crime.”

Yet, after all, it is highly probable that this Abbé never knew of this scandalous dispensation. What would he not have said, had he known that they not only despise in it the irrevocable threatening annexed to the prohibition of perjury in the third commandment, but that they even turn it against those who would hinder the prince from making himself guilty of perjury, and dissuade him from the thought of making use of a dispensation so diametrically opposite to the law of God? For the brief concludes with threatening with the wrath of God and that of the blessed apostles *Peter and Paul*, those who shall be so rash as to attempt to infringe this concession †.

Fancy to yourself, pray now, that a wise counsellor of king *John* had undertaken to dissuade him from taking the advantage of this dispensation from the pope, and that seeing him ready to violate a treaty supported by an oath, he had awakened his conscience upon the enormity of the perjury; here that pious minister stands anathematized for that very thing. And who is he then who has pronounced this sentence? It is that pretended head of the church, who takes the title of God’s lieutenant upon earth,

* *Institution of a prince*, tom. 1. p. 304. † *Nulli ergo hominum liceat hanc paginam nostræ concessionis infringere, vel ei ausu temerario contraire. Si quis quidem attentare præsumserit, indignationem omnipotentis Dei & beatorum Petri & Pauli apostolorum ejus se noverit incursurum.*

It was not enough for this worthy vicar of Jesus Christ to have altered the morality of the gospel, so far as to permit and to authorise perjury for any temporal interest; it was not enough for him to be the author of this prevarication, but heaven must go halves with him in it. It was already a great deal to dare to suppose in the Divinity a connivance at this wicked action; but he must be made an accomplice in it as well as the apostles, and threaten with heavenly wrath those who should think of preventing this crime by wise counsels. This dispensation of the pope, therefore, ought to be looked upon as entirely contrary to good faith, and altogether pernicious; but the manner in which it concludes still exceeds the body of the bull: *In cauda venenum.*

Here is a great noise about a trifle, will some zealous defender of the see of *Rome* say. It is a matter of stile, this conclusion is the common form of all bulls, so that they have no reason to pretend to lay such a stress upon the terms. I have not examined whether the *Roman* chancery concludes all those bulls with this threatening; but were it so, would you think this answer, Sir, very satisfactory? Let this conclusion be found in ever so many other places, it cannot be allowed here. Why? Because it squares altogether with the tenor of the brief, and because it squares with it in the most impious manner. If I found a blasphemy at the end of an act, would he who drew it up justify himself by representing to me, that it was a matter of stile, a mere form? Now nothing is more blasphemous than

to dare to assert, that God will punish those who shall oppose perjury.

It is said, that at *Padua* there happened one day to be brought to the censor of books, a translation of the *Alcoran*, for leave to print it. He was at that moment so absent from himself, that without any other examination he wrote at the end of the manuscript, that he permitted it to be printed, as having nothing in it contrary to the catholic faith. Every one cried out upon this approbation. But the examiner might alledge the same excuse as that which I am refusing. He need only have said, that he had kept to the common form. Now, which of the two do you believe to be the most contrary to the christian religion, the *Alcoran*, or the bull of *Clement VI.*

I have heard some persons alledge, in excuse of the Pontiff, as follows: "The bull, say they, is dated from *Avignon*, where the popes held their see for some time. *Clement VI.* was a *French* gentleman, born a subject to king *John*. These circumstances, say they, may have put the pope in great dependence upon the prince, who perhaps might have abused the ascendant which he had over his old subject, to extort this dispensation from him."

This is the most plausible excuse that can be alledged in favour of a bad cause. To which I answer, that, were it so as here represented, there would be a great deal of cowardice in the Pontiff to condescend to such a demand. But it does not appear, either that the king required any thing like it, or that the pope had put himself on the

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the footing of having the cowardly complaisance for that prince, which he is supposed to have had. There are even proofs to the contrary.

After the bull in question, Dom *Luke d'Auberi* relates another, which dispenses with the king and queen's fasts and abstinences from meat, but with great precautions: For that purpose there must be an attestation, not of one physician only, but of several, as to the alteration which fasting caused in their majesties health: The confessor and the faculty must agree together, that the king is in a condition, which makes that permission absolutely necessary; and if they shall have determined a little lightly, he discharges his own conscience from it; and lays the sin at their door*. To excuse the king from his oath, it is sufficient he is a little incommoded by it; but to excuse him from the fasts of the church, the inconveniency must be considerable and well attested: Here is a director, whose delicacy we cannot but admire! He carries his scruple so far as to fear lest those he directs should swallow a gnat; and to make use of the same figure in the gospel, he permits them to swallow a camel. But the question is not here upon the contrariety of this conduct; what I will only conclude from it, is, that in this permission to eat meat granted with so much limitations,

we do not perceive a pope who pushes his complaisance to his sovereign too far: There is no petty gentleman in the kingdom, to whom they could have refused this dispensation on the like attestations.

But to prove in a more direct manner, that the king had not demanded of the pope to be absolved from the oaths which might be inconvenient to him, and that the holy father granted him this favour without being solicited for it; we need only to observe the beginning of the bull. It begins thus: We readily acquiesce to your desires and your requests, but especially to that which you make to us; as to the means to procure you the favour of God, peace of soul, and eternal salvation †.

This bull is dated from *Avignon*, April 20, 1351. In the beginning of this year the king had come into that country: It is very probable, that he consulted the pope about the state of his conscience, as his doctor. The beginning of the bull insinuates it. He went to him with very good intentions, and much like those of the young man in the gospel, who asked Jesus Christ what he should do to obtain eternal life? But what a difference in the answer! "If you will be saved, keep the commandments," says our Saviour to him ‡. But he who calls himself his vicar, teaches to violate them. For this

* — de carnibus vesci poteritis, de concilio tamen medicorum, quotiens confessor & medici hoc vobis videbitur expedire, quorum conscientias oneramus. *Spicilegium*, p. 377.

† *Votis vestris libenter annuimus, iis precipue per quæ, sicut piè desideratis, pacem & salutem animarum. Deo propitio, consequi volentis.*

‡ *Matt. xix. 7.*

purpose he furnishes expedients to the king, who comes to consult him. To make him enjoy peace of soul, to procure him the favour of God in this life, and in the end eternal salvation, he indulges him in making fraudulent treaties, which he may confirm by an oath, and violate them afterwards if he finds them a little inconvenient. An admirable way to procure ourselves peace of conscience and salvation, by infidelity, dishonesty, and perjury! If Mr. *Jurieu* had known of this bull, it would have been an excellent article against the popes, in his just prejudices against popery.

Some confident of the pope's should have represented to him, before he let such a scandalous piece slip, that one precaution should have been taken, which was, to erase the third commandment out of the decalogue. His church had suppressed the second for a long time, that it might not prejudice the worship of images; its neighbour, in good *Roman* policy, ought not to be more spared.

The oftener I read over this brief, the more I consider the circumstances of it, the more it seems to me not to be extorted from the pope. The holy father did things with a good grace, he gratified the king in it, out of his own good pleasure, voluntarily, and, if I may so say, with gaiety of heart. That which, above all, persuades me of this, is the character of king *John*, who does not seem capable of making such a demand. You know, Sir, the history of that prince: he had the misfortune to lose the bat-

tle of *Poitiers* against the *English*, and to be taken prisoner. The victorious prince carried him into *England* the year following. By the treaty of *Bretigni*, concluded some time after, and confirmed by the oath of the two kings, *John* gives up to king *Edward* several provinces, and a great many very considerable lands. Before this affair was finished, the captive king was reconducted into *France*. If ever treaty contained hard and burthenome clauses, it was certainly that of *Bretigni*. It would be too soft an expression, to say with the bull, that they could not be observed without inconvenience. In reading this treaty, we immediately represent to ourselves a king triumphant, treading upon his vanquished enemy's neck, and forcing him to submit to the conditions he thinks fit to impose on him. In the mean time, this oppressed prince never seems to have had any thought of making use of this bull, which had been dispatched for him above ten years before.

Far from designing to break the treaty, we know that, in 1632, he returned into *England* and surrendered himself a prisoner again. This proceeding has very much puzzled the historians to account for the true motives of it. The most probable that has been alledged, is, that he had been very much offended at the escape of the duke of *Anjou*, his second son, who had stolen away from *Calais*, where he had been left upon his parole. He was one of the hostages for the security of the treaty. The king his father, therefore, repassed the

sea, as well to excuse this fault, as to put an end, with the king of England, to the rest of the difficulties which retarded the execution of the treaty of *Bretigni*. He had obtained his liberty only on condition of executing it faithfully. He was resolved, therefore, at any rate whatever, to procure the accomplishment of it. They attribute to this prince, on this occasion, a saying worthy of being transmitted to all posterity, *That if truth and honesty were banished from the rest of the world, yet they ought to be found again in the mouths of kings* *. It will easily be granted, upon these several passages of history, that this prince was a much honest man than the pope, and that it is wronging his memory to ascribe to him the having been earnest to obtain this odious bull. King *John* had the misfortune to die in *England* three months after his return thither.

Do not be surprised, Sir, at my giving this bull the title of odious. You will not think it too hard, if you will but consider, that it not only tends to smooth the way to treachery, to facilitate perjury, but even to perpetuate them. That a pope should have absolved a prince from any particular oath, under any pretence, good or bad, would not be very surprising. The bishops themselves, at a certain time, assumed to themselves the cognizance of those cases. But that which surprizes, is to see a pope giving to a prince's confessor

an indeterminate power to absolve him not only from the treaties which he has made, but also which he shall make for the future. Furthermore, he grants the same favour to all the successors of this prince, so long as the monarchy shall subsist; that is to say, that the following kings shall have nothing to do but to chuse such a confessor as they shall think proper, who by prescribing some slight alms to them, or some prayers to mutter over in *Latin*, shall disengage them afterwards from their oath. The number of years ought not to weaken this fine privilege, so that the bull may have operated also in the revocation of the edict of *Nantes*, 334 years after it had been dispatched. This is anticipating the future in a manner very dangerous to morality, and to the publick security; it is giving occasion, for a long series of ages, to treachery and perjury.

I believe then, that I have proved, that king *John* had not solicited such a shocking privilege as this. It is very true, that from *Philip* the fair, the king of *France* saw with pleasure, that the popes should have their see at *Avignon*, in order to have them a little better under their thumb, and in their dependence. But on this occasion the place of the pope's residence, is of no service to excuse his bull.

Another salvo may, perhaps, be suggested for this. Some catholic, not well versed in history, will endeavour to attribute to some

* This fine saying is ascribed also to Charles V. Both of them may have said it; but it is much better attributed to the king of France, than to that emperor, who did not always regulate his conduct by that excellent maxim.

anti-pope this bull, so infamous for his church. The date from *Avignon* seems, at first sight, to favour this conjecture. But were this supposition well grounded, it would not remedy the bad effects of the bull, because after the extinction of the schism it was decreed in a council, that all the concessions of those false popes should have force and vigour as before*. But, Sir, if you will but consult any history of the popes, you will see that this subterfuge cannot take place. *Clement VI.* never has been put in the class of anti-popes. He must not be confounded with *Clement VII.* who was called *Robert of Geneva*, the last of the male race of the counts of *Geneva*, who has not been put in the rank of lawful popes. As for *Clement VI.* he was elected very regularly by a score of cardinals assembled in conclave.

To save you the trouble of turning over any author of the lives of the popes, here are some particulars about *Clement VI.* He was called *Peter Roger*; and was the son of a gentleman of the *Limousin*; He was made a monk in the convent of *Auvergne*. He went to study at *Paris*, where he succeeded very well. He pined for learned, and *Petrarch*, who was his cotemporary, mentions him as a very learned man. You see plainly, this is not a means to have his bull excused; on the contrary, it is an aggravating circumstance. Although a man of study, when he was raised to the pontificate, his

taste was turned entirely to ostentation. He maintained his household in a royal manner; his tables were magnificently served. He had a great number of esquires and gentlemen, abundance of horses, which he often rode for diversion. His manners in general were most gentleman-like, and not at all ecclesiastical. He took great care to enrich his nephews.

What is singular, is, that on occasion of some crusades which he had in view, he wrote a very severe letter to the knights of *Rhodes*, known at present by the name of knights of *Malta*, upbraiding them with the very same faults. He censures them for their too great curiosity in fine horses, and in general for loving expence too much. He asked them whether that is the design of the goods of the church, and the use that is to be made of them? *Matthew Villani*, who has given us the character of this pope, in his history of *Florence*, adds, that being archbishop he kept no decencies with the ladies; that when he was ill, he was attended by ladies, in the same manner as relations take care of the seculars. He died, *Dec. 6.* 1352.

I find a very curious little particular in *Claudian*, a dominican monk, who wrote the lives of the popes. A poet, who had some favour to ask of this *Clement*, believed, that to obtain what he desired, he ought to present him with some *Latin verses*, which should praise him very much, and contain wishes for his prosperity. But it

* See in the *spicilegium*, tom 4. p. 352. *Decretum synodi Lausaneensis, ubi rata volunt patres quae tempore schismatis ab eis fuerat.*

was a *Norman encomium*, which, in case of refusal, became a satire, accompanied with imprecations against the pontiff, pretty much like the play of *Perspectivus*, where, according to the different point of view, the same figure presents alternately a fine lady and a monster. Here is the encomium seen on its bright side.

*Lous tua, non tua fraus, virtus non
capia rerum
Scandere te fecit hac decus eximium.
Pauperibus tua das, nunquam stat
janua clausa.
Fundere res quaris, nec tua multi-
plicas.
Conditio tua sit stabilis, non tempore
parvo
Vivere te faciat hic Deus omni-
potens †.*

The poet was denied, notwithstanding this fine encomium; but he revenged himself for it by giving his friends the key. He told them privately, they were retrograde verses, which should be read backwards, beginning with the last word, in this manner,

*Omnipotens Deus hic faciat te vi-
vere parvo
Tempore, non stabilis sit tua condi-
tio, &c.*

Here is something of more consequence than this joke, and which I must not omit. It is a very curious anecdote, which I draw from the same spring as the bull of *Clement VI.* I mean from the late bishop of *Salisbury*, Dr. *Barnet*. This prelate then told us also at his table, that about the end of the

last century, king *William*, and the elector of *Brandenburgh*, *Frederick-William*, meeting together to confer about the situation of the affairs of *Europe*, lamented the little dependence they could have on treaties, and their not knowing how to trust the catholic princes. Thereupon the elector said to the king, that he would communicate to him a remark he had made; which was, that in the treaties with the princes of the *Roman* church, it is better to keep to their single promise, than to let an oath intervene; because, in the first case, they sometimes pique themselves upon their honour, and are desirous of passing for honest men; but if an oath is added to it, the ecclesiastics immediately take cognizance of it, and do not fail to absolve the sovereign from it. The bishop of *Salisbury* had this anecdote from king *William's* own mouth.

A politician has proposed an experiment to give a firmness to the treaties concluded with the catholic princes; which is, to have the first oath backed with another, wherein such sovereign should renounce the privilege which his religion gives him to practise perjury with those of another communion, by means of a dispensation dispatched by the datary of the vatican. But this precaution would signify nothing: the speculatist, who has pointed it out, did not consider, that the pope would relieve such prince from his second oath, as well as the first.

I am, &c.

† *Ciconius, Vita pontificum, tom. 2. p. 489.*

Gentlemen,

Gentlemen, said SALMANUS, who had yet join'd little in the conversation, we have often talk'd on the subject of the late regulations and disturbances at Cambridge, and frequently wish'd to see an unprejudic'd and sensible account of them: that we now have in this judicious pamphlet call'd, *Considerations on the expediency of making, and the manner of conducting the late regulations at Cambridge*; we may guess from the beginning the excellence of the whole, the author (or if report be true, the authors) observe,

"AS all who had any concern in drawing up, or promoting the late regulations at Cambridge, have been several ways called before the tribunal of the publick, to give an account of their conduct; as this call has been repeated by accusations in the news-papers, and challenges from the press; as they have been provoked to it by the grossest abuse of * one writer, and invited by the affected moderation and neutrality of † another: It is become, in some degree, necessary for such as took any part in this affair, to say something in vindication of their proceedings; and endeavour to satisfy, as far as they are able, the publick expectation, which so much pains has been taken to raise.

If the reader should be curious to know who the writer of these few sheets is, that he may the better judge, how he is likely to execute the task he has undertaken; how he is enabled to give him a full account of these things, or

qualified to give him a true one; though I cannot help telling him, that he will more probably succeed in all his enquiries after the truth, by attending rather to what is said on any subject, than to the person who says it: Yet I will gratify him so far as to acquaint him, that I am one who had no share in projecting, not much in promoting, these laws; that I received no early impressions in their favour, by striking out the thought myself, or by furnishing the materials of which they are made up, or by being of that private council by which they were conducted; but that the duty I owe, and the real regard I have for the university, would not suffer me to be an indifferent and idle spectator of these transactions; and, I flatter myself, will not suffer me to be so in any Transaction, where its credit and welfare are concerned.

I was in a situation that might seem to enable me to judge and to act impartially; I conversed with freedom, and I lived in friendship with many gentlemen, who differed greatly in their sentiments on this occasion; I had frequent debates on this subject with both parties; but I had no dependance upon or particular connections of interest with either; with those who in the progress of this affair have given, or those who have taken offence. I pretend not to be free from prejudices; I believe no man is free from them: But I am not sensible of being under the influence of any, that were likely to blind or mislead me in this matter:

* Letter to Ld. Egmont and Dr. Keene. † Academic.

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I am sure of my not being influenced by any corrupt ones, that would make me sacrifice the right I have, which I value as I ought, and which I will preserve, that of judging for myself, and of acting according to that judgment.

But as I dislike the artifice of slipping my own sentiments upon the reader under an assumed character; or of giving all the help and advantage I can to one party, in the disguise of a neutral one; I do freely acknowledge, that I acted uniformly in support of the late regulations; that I gave my voice to have them passed into laws, and, now they are passed, will use my endeavours to have them carried into execution. For I thought, and still think, that many of them would probably do much good; that none of them were likely to do any harm; that their manifest tendency is to promote, and, I trust, if we are not wanting to ourselves, they will, in fact, promote the good order and government of this place, with which its reputation and well-being are very nearly connected. And though I was neither privy to the Steps thought proper to be taken, nor entirely approved of all that were actually taken, in the management and conduct of them; yet I could not bring myself to think, that any exceptions of this nature would be sufficient to justify my opposition to the regulations themselves.

But I confess, that the publick does not seem to me to be much interested in this dispute: Entertainment it can hardly receive, if the narrative be confined, as it should be, to the plain and impartial recital of a few facts; if re-

course be not had to the heightenings of fancy and the freedom of conjecture; if the reader's curiosity be not gratified by initiating him into the mysteries of secret history; or his appetite quickened by the seasoning of domestic scandal.

Nor do I see, how an appeal to the publick judgment in this affair can be of any great use; for though I am very sensible of the expediency and usefulness of such an appeal, on all occasions that require it, that is, on all in which the publick can be supposed to judge; yet I doubt whether this be a case of that kind. It relates to the discipline and government of a particular body of people, already tied down to the observance of their own local statutes, which must be the general rule and measure of their conduct; and whether these statutes have defects that want to be supplied, (for no legislator can at once provide for such a variety of cases, as a course of time and change of circumstances will of necessity introduce;) or whether any new irregularities may have taken place, against which there was not any, or at least not any sufficient provision; whether laws of so ancient a date might not want to be more clearly explained, or more strongly enforced; whether some, that through a too general neglect might have grown almost obsolete, might not receive new vigour from a fresh publication; are points which must be most known to the persons with whom the power of making new laws, or of strengthening or explaining old ones, is already entrusted: The members of that body seem the best, it were not perhaps too

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much to say, the only proper judges, whether there are such defects, and in what manner they may be best made up; whether there are these irregularities, and by what means they may most effectually be redressed.

Had we been engaged in a design of altering, in any essential points, the constitution of this place, or of changing the general plan of education, or of counteracting, in any degree, the original purpose of our foundation; had we been breaking thro' those boundaries which the wisdom of our forefathers had established for promoting discipline; or opening a door to any sort of licentiousness, by the relaxation of the laws they had given us for our direction and government; then indeed the publick would have a right to call upon us for the reasons of such a proceeding and have room to censure us, if those reasons did not, as in such a case they could not, give them due satisfaction. But this is not said: it cannot be pretended. The general state or constitution of the university is no ways altered, the same laws are still in force, some of them have received an additional force, and the power of executing them continues to be lodged in the same hands; every master, tutor, and dean of a college, are left to exercise their authority, and to pursue the business of education, in the same manner they did before, for the government and instruction of the youth entrusted to their care. If the publick then has a concern, and it undoubtedly has a very great one, that the good order of this place be maintained, and the useful purposes of its insti-

tution answered; there is not the least colour or pretence for saying, that by these regulations it is rendered less capable, or less likely, to answer them. Every one has it now in his power to read and to consider them; and I submit it to the judgment of every father in the kingdom, whether he thinks the learning of his son in any danger of being hindered, or his morals spoiled, or his loyalty tainted by his observance of them. If indeed the son be but restrained from every kind of idleness and extravagance, and directed to pursue the chief ends of his coming here, his improvement in religion and learning; It is of little concern to the father to know, whether this was done by laws made in queen *Elizabeth's* reign, or in 1750, or in both."

He then remarks, the want of candor, and that suspence of judgment, agreeable to the character of an *academic* in a late pamphlet so called; and proceeds to settle this necessary preliminary point, whether the university wanted regulations or not, which by many, and very cogent reasons, he sufficiently proves. How judiciously does he observe, That there are some vices, which are the particular turn and characteristic of almost every age; and it can hardly escape the most superficial observer, that an expensive way of living, an extravagance in dress, a strong passion for pleasure and amusement, and a disregard to authority, are the distinguishing vices of this age. This present state of our country makes it not improbable, but that something of this sort may be amiss, and

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want amendment among ourselves. These vices which are the common subjects of complaint in the world, may, 'tis likely not be excluded, though great care, I am satisfy'd, has been taken to exclude them from hence. It is natural I think that they would, and it is fact I think that they have, whatever pains may have been used to prevent it, brought something of the common taint and contagion among us.

The murmurs among parents and guardians on some of these heads, which are I am told loud and open in most parts of the kingdom, can hardly be supposed to be entirely without foundation; and I am afraid they will not be removed or abated by telling them, that they are destitute of all taste, if they will not admit of such additional expences; which are now become necessary from the general improvements that are made in dress and urbanity.*—The frequent alarms and complaints we have had of late, of irregularities committed in the town, and the neighbourhood of the town, are not all, I am afraid, to be imputed to mistake, or to malice: And to bring the matter home, I appeal to every serious man in the place; whether he thinks its discipline as well supported, and the youth as conformable now to its laws and government; as might be hoped, or as they used to be within the compass of his own memory. Every man, who has lived here any time, has seen it to be otherwise, every friend to the university has lamented to see it.

The severities that were exerci-

sed, and thought quite necessary to be exercised, in forty-nine, tend greatly to confirm this matter. They were not inflicted for slight and trivial offences, for "a window or two that happened to be broken;" but for very heinous violations of our laws and discipline. And that upwards of twenty persons, many of good families and fortune, should in the course of a few months, be sentenced to an entire or temporary banishment from the university; some in a public and judicial manner, others by an act of their several colleges; that such a proceeding should be judged very proper and seasonable, and meet with a general approbation, as this certainly did; cannot I think well be supposed; without shewing at the same time, that the state of things was not altogether as it should be; but that it wanted amendment, and probably would be amended by the vigorous interposition of authority."

After this, he clears the governors and the university from the odious aspersions that have been thrown upon them of the whole scheme of reformation being nothing but an intrigue of theirs to ingratiate themselves with the men in power, and promote their own interest, not that of the university. He sets in the plainest and most justifiable light the whole conduct of the persons concern'd in the regulations, and excellently takes off all popular objections to, and ill-natur'd insinuations against the manner in which they were conducted. He remarks in considering the arguments for and against the regulations, That the presumptive argu-

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* Acad. p. 23.

ments, as far as they will go, seem to me to be much in favour of the regulations; as they are said to have been chiefly drawn up by persons, whose duty obliges them to consider, and whose station, in some degree, enables them to judge, what may best conduce to the good order and real interests of the university; as they were revised and improved by others of confessed abilities and experience, in business, and of well known regard and affection for us. I would neither practise myself, nor justify in others, a blind deference to the judgment, or an implicit submission to the authority of great names. But that * persons of the first character in the nation should consider and approve of a set of regulations, and think them proper for our use, not one of which should have the good fortune to be approved by these gentlemen, is, I confess, very strange and extraordinary, if the intrinsic nature and quality of the regulations themselves were only attended to.

But have we not statutes already to secure the good order and discipline of the university? And would not these ends be sufficiently answered by a diligent and vigorous execution of these statutes? — It is readily granted; there are such laws in being; but is it not prudent to give them all the strength and validity we can, and to engage an attention to them in the most effectual manner? May not a long course of time make some farther enforcement of these laws necessary, or give room for a clearer explication of their meaning? May not a change of cus-

toms, fashions, and ways of living, make some alterations in them proper; and are not such alterations frequently made under the best constituted government? Among all the regulations lately passed I know not of one, (and as all of them have been frequently said to be such, it can surely be no difficult matter to produce one,) that is merely a republication of the old statutes. Let them be compared: By such a comparison this fact may be easily settled; but it can never be settled in a satisfactory manner by flourish and declamation. All such as are taken from our old laws, have received, I think, some improvements in such a way, as other laws are usually improved, by being either enlarged, or explained, or strengthened by additional sanctions.

But a great part of the regulations do not relate to immoralities of a grosser kind, but to indiscretions and failings of a less heinous nature; such as an unnecessary waste of time in money, and horses, servants and chaises; or too close an attendance on the amusements of cricket, coffee-houses, and tennis-courts. Many of these are the growth of later times, and which are not therefore, and could not be provided against by the old statutes. But it will not, I hope, be thought below the notice of a liberal and well regulated society, like ours, to correct, as far as we can, these irregularities; as all of them tend, in a greater or lesser degree, to hurt its usefulness, and defeat some of the principal ends of its appointment. By adding then particular

ticular and explicit laws against these fashionable and prevailing vices, and by so adjusting the punishment to the offence, that it may be likely to hinder their prevalence for the future, we should seem to give the best proof in our power, that we are disposed and desirous of making this place as useful as we can to the purposes, for which it was intended, of an ingenious and learned education.

But if some slight advantages, in point of regularity, were to be obtained by these new orders, was the obtaining them a matter of sufficient consequence to embroil a whole university about it?

The advantages, that may with great reason be expected from passing and executing these orders, are real and substantial ones: The embroilment was not an effect, that could be foreseen, as it did not naturally proceed from any apparent cause. It was not supposed, it could not reasonably be supposed, that a few regulations, visibly calculated to restrain extravagance, to prevent idleness, and to promote good morals in the university, could meet with an opposer, much less stir up a fierce and an angry opposition."

He concludes "With regard to all the other regulations, there appears to be in many a proper warmth and earnestness, and I doubt not but that there will be a vigorous endeavour in all parties, to carry them into execution. Those, who shewed a zeal and activity to establish them, are, as they certainly ought to be, zealous and active to enforce them: And many, who did not act in their favour, do yet see the

great fitness and the expediency of putting them in force, so that they are now become part of the laws, by which we are to be govern'd. Those, who fill some of the public and most important offices among us, have shewn great faithfulness, vigilance, and spirit in the discharge of their duty; and there is great reason to hope, that all the superior members of the university will, each in his proper rank and place, diligently concur in supporting these new laws by their example, as well as authority.

The influence, they have already had, is, in my judgment, and the opinion of all I have conversed with, a very considerable one; enough to encourage our industry and animate our resolution in proceeding; by which we may justly expect them to have much more extensive and general good effects; such as cannot fail to be of substantial advantage and credit to ourselves; of signal use and benefit to the public; and that will reflect some degree of honour on that illustrious name, of whose favour and protection we have the most dutiful sense, whose great kindness and prudence we gratefully acknowledge, in paying such an attention to the forming them, and in recommending them to us, as a proof of his sincere resolutions to do real and effectual service to the university."

Upon the whole, the governors of the university could not have wish'd a better defence, or desir'd their conduct to appear in a more fair, and every way, unblameable light.

I hope,

I hope, said POLITIAN, these differences in that excellent body will soon have an end, and verify the prophetic vision of a friend of mine, which as perhaps you may not have met with, and as it is an ingenious and sensible performance, I'll read it you.

A Vision relating to the present Disputes at Cambridge.

Dec. 15. 1750.

I HAD been spending the evening with some academic friends, when the chief of our conversation turned upon the unhappy opposition to the generous endeavours of the worthy vice-chancellor of Cambridge; and the lamenting that those designs of his should be so encumbered and molested, which all, who know him, are fully convinced are calculated solely for the improvement of learning and virtue, for diminishing the very heavy expences of academic education, and for serving that university (and consequently that country) he loves. Full of these reflections I betook me to my bed, when busy fancy presented the following scene:—Methought I was conveyed within the hallow'd walls of *Granta*, and at a distance beheld a large crowd, which seem'd chiefly composed of the younger sort; they were clamorous and loud, and every mouth at once cry'd out, "Away with discipline! away with regulations!" I observed a leading kind of personage, immense of size, and like *Briareus*, with an hundred hands, that headed the mob, whom I soon found to be *Faction*: he, with his party, pass'd on towards the senate-house,

followed by an object, surrounded with a large group of votaries, that seem'd to be enamour'd of her graces. She was reclined on a silken sofa, and had not even spirits enough to move one delicately-enfeebled limb: her face was soft, but unmeaning; her look sleepy, dead, and languid: honour and toil were names she detested, and perpetual ease and luxury the laborious end of her wishes. She was called *Indolence*. All that moved round her seem'd, like herself, inspired with a kind of lethargic lethargy: they moved, and scarcely seem'd to move: labour, virtue, study, discipline, and every thing good and great, was madness to their sight, and discord to their ear.

There were some personages I discern'd of moment, (but all imperfectly) both in the band of *Faction* and *Indolence*; but *Faction* seem'd to boast of the greatest number; and no wonder, when he had two such excellent abettors as *Opposition* and *Vanity*.

Such was the train that advanc'd towards the senate-house: their whole cry was for "No study, no toil; liberty and ease." All was clamour. *Indolence* demanded the throne; *Dulness* reared up her sage and venerably-sober brow; *Faction* thundered; *Vanity* smiled, and feebly clapp'd applause; while *Opposition* cock'd his cap, stalk'd a buxkin'd step, damn'd and swore "it was great." When on a sudden the doors expanded, and a venerable scene presented itself to view: at the top of the theatre, on her ancient throne, sat the glorious *Alma Mater*, the parent of so many great and truly illustrious sons:

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in her right hand she held her first favourite, and the favourite of *Britannia*; the man whose noble zeal for his king, his country, and mankind, will ever make him really great and truly honourable.—In her left, the much-injur'd assertor of her liberties, the strenuous patron of virtue and learning. A venerable assembly was seated round, amongst whom *Discipline*, with an awful and nobly-undaunted countenance, shone distinguished; *Learning* rear'd aloft her mild and lovely brow; *Virtue* ray'd round her brightest influence; and *Public Spirit* stood erect, with an honest look, conscious of his own merits. The factious train was at first somewhat abash'd at an appearance so august; but soon grew clamorous as at first, and now began to demand the old queen's departure from her ancient throne and empire, that *Indolence* might ascend to such high honour; and with her, the departure of her two favourites, well deserving her best regard, that *Faction* and *Liberty*, (for so they called a traitor disguis'd that attended them) might be put in their places. Thus were they pressing forwards, when *Discipline*, *Virtue*, and *Public Spirit* walk'd slowly towards them, and look'd 'em into silence. *Virtue* pointed to the venerable assembly before them, and set them in such a point of view, that the factious ey'd 'em with envy askant, and curs'd what they cou'd not but approve. The good old *Alma Mater*, rising gracefully from her throne, with tears begg'd 'em to reflect on the glorious days she had known, and the barbarity of their treating her, in a manner more

cruel and unkind than ever she had known before. "For these (says she, pointing to the worthy persons at either hand of her) be assured their zeal for my honour and advantage, ought, and will, recommend 'em to the esteem and admiration of every wise man: the noblest attempts, and things most sacred, are liable to the sting of ridicule, and the sneer of false wit, but that proves not ought against their excellencies. Virtuous minds, conscious of their own uprightness, persist unappall'd, and triumph the more glorious, the more they have been oppos'd.—For you, my sons, it behoves you to look on these two with the greatest reverence and respect: honour them if you love yourselves; for 'tis you alone they seek to honour. Would you give up yourselves to the enchantments of yon deluding Syren, who will so draw you from all that's noble, your misery and misfortunes alone can be the consequence? Dare to be good; and pursue the steps their friendly hands point out to you, take the paths that lead to virtue, and refuse not labour, if you would ascend the steep of honour. Wou'd you not all be great?—I know you wou'd; but sure there is no way of being so, but by virtue and industry. Fly, then, from the Follies that surround you; so shall you do me credit, and your country service.

"For you, my best friends, I shall always have reason to esteem you: all men shall at length with me approve you:

Faction

644 *A Letter from Mrs. Midnight to Mr. Hoyle.*

"*Faction* shall die, and you shall triumph: *Virtue* ever must do so; and designs so laudable as yours, however oppos'd, were never yet frustrated. Every father, his eyes overflowing with honest tears, shall bless you, when he beholds his rising son; and those sons, in future times, shall in every prayer beg blessings for those, his more unthinking days of folly dar'd disapprove. Be not discourag'd; persist in your great work; the good, the wise are all yours, and all that wish well to themselves, their children, and their country."

As she spoke, *Faction* vanish'd as a vapour: *Indolence* was nowhere to be found; *Virtue* stepp'd amidst the throng, and handed every where an agreeable smiling personage call'd *General Approbation*. He was receiv'd and caress'd by all, and the whole crowd seem'd happy and at one; *Learning* look'd with new and reviv'd lustre, and perfect *Contentment* tripp'd joyous thro' all the throng. The abundant rapture of a scene, I so earnestly wish'd for, awoke me; and though I found it but a dream, I cou'd not help presaging, that such, in reality, wou'd soon be the case, as men of learning and sense are the distinguish'd parties in that place, who sure can never dissent how virtue, and learning are to be best and most universally propagated.

Good now, quoth Sir LIONEL, has the old Woman forsaken us this month, HILARIO? have we nothing there worth notice? Why, in truth, Sir LIONEL, replied

HILARIO, she prattles grievously; here's a piece at the beginning, which as it contains some humorous satire on gaming, your great detestation, I'll read you, but I believe I must beg pardon for intruding on your patience.

A Letter from Mrs. Midnight to Mr. Hoyle, partly complimentary, and partly obtrigatory.

Mr. Hoyle,

PERmit me, Sir, to address you with that reverence and obsequious deportment, which is due to the author of a book more read and studied than the Bible. Permit me to add my congratulations to those of the public on your useful and important treatise concerning the game of Whist. Every little helps (as the old woman said when she did something in the sea) the applause therefore of mother *Midnight* will be some little adjunct to your universal fame, that name whose hundred throats are hoarse with your praises, yet who still despairs of doing justice to your merit. For my part, (I think) it would be no more than your due, to erect a statue to you in every town in this kingdom, because nothing on earth redounds so much to the honour, interest, and happiness of a nation, as its being distinguish'd for a spirit of gaming; which glorious spirit has been greatly supported and increased by your means. It is very much to be lamented, that gaming is not reckoned one of the cardinal virtues, as it is attended with such admirable consequences. By Gaming, a man acquires a noble contempt of money, the soul is enlarged

enlarged, and totally disentangled from the weakness of humanity, and that pusillanimous concern and tenderness which some people are apt to entertain for their wives, children and friends. What a great creature is a losing gamester--what sublime expressions! what exalted hyperboles shall you hear from him? How exemplary magnanimous is that person, who shall challenge and arraign Omnipotency itself! and (though he can neither write nor read) find fault with the whole system of the universe, because at a certain emergency he did not hold the knave of spades!

But now, worthy Sir, as I have paid my compliments to you for the good services you have done for your country, I shall make bold to call you to an account for what you have left undone: and here I am sorry to say, you have passed by unregarded some of the most useful, as well as most elegant games upon the cards. This (I own) is an heavy charge, but I shall take upon me to support it.

In the first place, you have totally neglected the advantageous and genteel game of

One and Thirty.

From this exquisite diversion our children learn the first elements of arithmetic, and grow acquainted with that serious truth and important proposition, that *two and two make four*. Add to this, that their frequently drawing out, injures them betimes to disappointments, and initiates them in the virtue of patience. The thoughts therefore of Mr. Hoyle upon this game are very necessary; and conse-

quently very much expected and desired.

You have also neglected

Drive the Knave out of Doors.

That this is a game of a very moral tendency, is manifest from its title; teaching our youth how people of that denomination ought to be served, and deterring them from dishonest practices by the force of example. The difficulty that attends the expulsion of the knave, shews them that a rascal is not always to be easily got rid of, from whence they may learn some knowledge of the world.

In the next place, you have neglected to give us your thoughts upon

Building Houses with Cards.

This is a very useful and admirable diversion. It was from this game; that Sir Christopher Wren had his first idea of architecture; and the great Coburn his earliest notions of fortification. From this our little ones not only get a taste for building, but behold in emblem the glassy precariousness of all human works; and here again the doctrine of patience and diligence are tacitly inculcated.

You have also neglected

Commerce or Traffic.

I think there is no one so hardy as to deny the expediency and even the necessity of this being taught the children of a trading nation. Here the little traders barter their mock merchandize, and learn the language of the Change. Here they have the earliest impressions of the advantage and pleasure of honest industry, and learn that noble

and most useful lesson of doing honour to their country, at the same time that they are enriching themselves. The fish being made use of as stakes, has a glorious effect, for it both naturally and unavoidably turns their thoughts to maritime affairs; and when they receive money for them, they cannot but reflect on *Britannia's* gold mine, or the *British* Herring-Fishery for ever, and they view future wealth through the pleasing prospect-glass of hope.

You furthermore neglected those two celebrated games of

*Put
and
All-Fours.*

That these are of most undoubted antiquity, is plain from a controversy which has subsisted for these seventeen years last past between *Dr. Rubbish*, deputy cockle-shell-keeper to the university of * * *, and the incomparable *Mr. Bridle-Goose*, master of the menagerie. The point in debate is which of these two games (for they are very clear 'twas one of them) it was that *Alexander the Great* play'd at with the queen of the *Amazons* the night before her departure. *Dr. Rubbish* (who by the bye is a very sanguine man) insists upon it with great vehemence that it was the former; and adds, that *Alexander* lost fifty talents with *Thalestris*, in the same manner, and for the same ends, as some of our noble youth often do when they wilfully lose an hundred guineas at picquet with a fair lady. On the other hand, *Mr. Bridle-Goose* asserts, not with the same passion indeed, but with an equal degree of positive-

ness, that it was the latter, and that her majesty was particularly successful in her turn-up cards, and whenever *Alexander* begged one, she was for going a card further. I shall not dwell any longer upon this affair, because there is now actually in the press, and speedily will be published in thirteen volumes folio, a *brief* Narrative of the state of the controversy between the learned doctor *Rubbish* deputy cockle-shell-keeper to the university aforesaid, and the incomparable *Mr. Bridle-Goose*.

You have also neglected the modest and now modish game of

Brag.

Which is peculiarly adapted to the fair and softer sex; and is therefore so much in vogue amongst ladies of distinction. Hereby they acquire a decent assurance and competency of countenance so absolutely necessary in life, and remedy that shamefacedness, which is a defect of nature, by the assistance of her handmaid art. I must add, that it is a game truly military, and it is a very unsoldier-like thing not to understand it; it was imported into this kingdom by some travellers who are all fond of it to this day.

You have also neglected

*Lu
and
Laugh and Lye down.*

The latter of which is of moral import, and exceeding instructive, pointing out to the *British* fair the evil consequence of excessive giggling; and the former, in which *Pam* is so often call'd upon to be civil, gives a practical hint for the

pro-

promotion of urbanity and good manners.

You have neglected also

Cribbage.

This is a game which tries the genius, and teaches the Art of *thriving*, especially when sharp's the word, and you play accurately. A man very often learns humility at this diversion, by being taken down a peg lower. In short, I look upon it to be absolutely necessary for the matriculation of such persons, who are intended to serve their country in the character of taylors, bumbailiffs, booksellers and excisemen.—I dare say Mr. *** plays a good game at cribbage.

You have also neglected

My Lady's Hole.

That this game was invented by a person of quality, is too obvious to be insisted upon, from the dignity of its appellation. It is an amusement attended with many exquisite consequences, but is rather too obnoxious to the punsters, who are not aware that it is evidently derived from the *Greek* word *ᾠον*, which signifies the *whole* or *sum total*, that is, in short, the *sweep-stakes*.

You have also neglected

Snip, Snap and Snorum.

Delectable and profitable is this old *English* amusement, and a sovereign remedy against the hyp. It promotes the circulation of the glass, and is the foster-mother

of jocularly. It is an exceeding good game to finish the heel of an evening; which is an hint for me to finish this long letter, in which I have said all that can be urg'd in the favour of gaming; and its worst enemies can bring but three *small* objections against it, namely, that it is the parent of *Robbery*, *Blasphemy* and *Murder*.—I am, Sir, with my bonnet cock't, and a low courtesy,

Your humble Servant,

in an honest Way,

MARY MIDNIGHT.

Poo, stuff, mutter'd SALMANUS, snarling, lets have another *Rambler*, they are ever worth hearing; let see here's one and a good one too.

* *Quæ nec Sarmentus iniquas
Cæsaris ad Mensas, nec villis Galba
tulisset.* JUV.

The RAMBLER, No. 98.

Mr. Rambler,

YOU have often endeavoured to impress upon your Readers an observation of more truth than novelty, that life passes for the most part in petty transactions, that our hours glide away in trifling amusements and slight gratifications, and that there very seldom emerges any occasion that can call forth great virtue or great abilities.

It very commonly happens that speculation has no influence on

* *If yet thou can'st hold out and suffer more,
Than lewd Sarmentus or vile Galba tore.*

BOWLES.

conduct.

conduct. Just conclusions, and cogent arguments, formed by laborious study, and diligent enquiry, are often repositied in the treasures of memory, as gold in the miser's chest, useless alike to others and himself. As some are not richer for the extent of their possessions, others are not wiser for the multitude of their ideas. You have very truly described the state of human beings, but it may be doubted whether you have sufficiently accommodated your precepts to your Description; whether you have not generally considered your readers as influenc'd wholly by the more violent or tragick passions, engaged always in deep designs and important pursuits, and susceptible of pain or pleasure only from powerful agents, and from great events.

To an author who writes not for the elucidation or improvement of any single art, the establishment of any controverted doctrine, or the promotion of any particular purpose, but equally intends the advantage, and equally courts the perusal of all the classes of mankind, nothing can justly seem unworthy of regard, by which the pleasure of conversation may be encreased, and the daily satisfactions of familiar life may be secured from interruption and disgust.

For this reason you would not have injured your reputation, if you had sometimes descended to the minuter duties of social beings, and enforced the observance of those little civilities and ceremonious delicacies, which, inconsiderable as they may appear to the man of science, and difficult as

they may prove to be detailed with the dignity of a philosopher, yet contribute to the regulation of the world, by facilitating the intercourse between one Man and another, and of which the *French* have sufficiently testified their esteem by terming the knowledge and practice of them *Scavoir vivre, the art of living*.

Politeness is one of those advantages which we never estimate rightly but by the inconvenience of its loss. Its influence upon the manners is constant and uniform, so that, like an equal motion, it escapes perception. The circumstances of every action are so adjusted to each other, that we do not see where any error could have been committed, and rather acquiesce in its propriety, than admire its exactness. But as sickness shews us the value of ease, a little familiarity with those who were never taught to endeavour the gratification of others, but regulate their behaviour only by their own will, will soon evince the necessity of established modes and formalities to the happiness and quiet of common life. Wisdom and virtue are by no means sufficient without the supplemental laws of good-breeding to secure freedom from rudeness, or self-esteem from insolence; and a thousand offences may be committed, and a thousand offices neglected without any remorse of conscience, or reproaches of reason.

The true Effect of genuine politeness seems to be rather ease than pleasure; the power of delighting must be conferred by nature, and cannot be delivered by precept, or obtained by imitation; but

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but though it be the privilege of a very small number to ravish and to charm, every man may hope by rules and caution not to give pain, and may, therefore, by the help of good-breeding enjoy the kindness of mankind, though he should have no claim to higher distinctions.

The universal axiom in which all complaisance is included, and from which flow all the formalities which custom has established in civilised nations, is, *that no man should give any preference to himself*. A rule so comprehensive and certain, that perhaps it is not easy for the mind to image an offence, without supposing it to be broken.

There are indeed in every place, some particular modes of the ceremonial part of good-breeding, which, being generally arbitrary and accidental, can be learned only by habitude and conversation; such are the forms of salutation, the different gradations of reverence, and all the adjustments of place and precedence. But these may be often violated without offence, if it be sufficiently evident, that neither malice nor pride contributed to the failure; but they will not atone, however rigidly observed, for the swell of insolence, or petulance of contempt.

I have, indeed, not found among any part of mankind, less real and rational complaisance, than among those who have passed their time in paying and receiving visits, in frequenting publick entertainments, in studying the exact measures of ceremony, and in watching all the variations of fashionable courtesy. They know, indeed, at what hour they may beat the door of an ac-

quaintance, how many steps they must attend him towards the gate, and what interval should pass before his visit is returned; but they seldom extend their care beyond the exterior and unessential parts of civility, nor refuse their own vanity any gratification, however expensive to the quiet of another.

Trypherus is a man remarkable for elegance and expence; a man that having been originally placed by his fortune and rank in the first class of the community, has acquired that air of dignity, and that readiness in the exchange of compliments which courts and assemblies easily confer. But *Trypherus*, without any settled purposes of malignity, partly by his ignorance of human nature, and partly by the habit of contemplating with great satisfaction his own grandeur and riches, is hourly giving offence to those whom chance or expectation bring in his way. To a man whose fortune confines him to a small house, he declaims upon the pleasure of spacious apartments, and the convenience of changing his lodging room in different parts of the year; tells him that he hates confinement; and concludes, that if his chamber was less, he should never wake without thinking of a prison. To *Eucrates*, a man of birth equal to himself, but of much less estate, he shewed his services of plate, and remarked that such things were, indeed, nothing better than costly trifles, but that no man must pretend to the rank of a gentleman without them; and that for his part, if his estate was less, he should not think of enjoying but encreasing it, and would enquire out some trade for his eldest son,

son. He has, in imitation of some more acute observer than himself, collected a great many shifts and artifices by which poverty is concealed, and never fails to talk of frippery and slight silks, and the convenience of a general mourning among ladies of small fortunes. I have been insulted a thousand times with a catalogue of his pictures, his jewels, and his rarities, which, though he knows the humble neatness of my habitation, he seldom fails to conclude by a declaration, that wherever he sees a house meanly furnished, he despises the owner's taste, or pities his poverty.

This, Mr. Rambler, is the practice of *Trypherus*, by which he is become the terror of all who are less wealthy than himself, and has raised innumerable enemies without rivalry, and without malevolence. Yet though all are not equally culpable with *Trypherus*, it is scarcely possible to find any man who does not frequently, like him, indulge his own pride, by forcing others into a comparison with himself, when he knows the advantage is on his side, without considering that unnecessarily to obtrude unpleasing ideas, is a species of oppression, and that it is not more criminal to deprive another of some real advantage, than to interrupt that forgetfulness of its absence which is the next happiness to actual possession.

I am, &c.

EUTROPIUS.

If I am not mistaken HILARIO said POLITIAN, you told me of a design of yours to publish a weekly paper on miscellaneous subjects by way of supplement to the *Rambler*, under the title of the *LIBERTINE*: "Pray have you dropt that design? I have; but if 'twill be agreeable, shall be no ways averse to communicating any of my papers to you; I took my motto from *Theognis*, which was

* Εγών μαινομαις· μάλα μαινομαι· ὅτι δικαιοις

Παύλῳ Ἀνδρῶντι ἡμῶν δικαιοτάτῳ.

I began my first paper with an account of myself, and to gain the ladies to my party, let 'em know I was young, gay and jolly: chiefly culpable in the opinion of my graver associates for a too great fondness for them, and a too warm inclination for gallantry. I told 'em, my person was upon the whole tolerably good, my height proper, my make and mein genteel enough, and my dress in general such as is most agreeable to their taste. I was born in town, school'd in the country, and finish'd at one of our excellent universities; where I was remark'd for being as great a student and as free a liver as any ever there; inasmuch that my friends, with whom I have spent the evening in the utmost gayety and mirth, have been amaz'd to find me next morning surrounded with *rum folio's*, or perhaps conversing with the greatest dons of the college on the most abstruse points

* Amidst the mad, the merry, and the young,
I am most mad and merry of the throng:
But midst the grave, the sober, and severe,
I seem the gravest, and most sober there.

D.
points

in philosophy. My manner of life here is (in town) nearly the same it was at the university: eight is my usual hour for rising, from which time, till three, I am generally engag'd in my closet, unless when interrupted by my barber and morning visitors: The agreeable family I am part of, always give fresh relish to my food, by their pleasing conversation, and with their wit excellently season their dainties; every day reminding me of the justness of Cicero's remark on his conversation with the ladies. The afternoon passes in visits, and the evening in public entertainments, none of which are more agreeable than our excellent theatres, when some favorite author, and some just actor invite me.

My acquaintance is of a very mixt kind: Men of sense, men of taste, men of gallantry, and men of *spirit*: I am happy enough to suit myself to all and find no small advantage from it: I am grave, gay, jolly, loud, silent and sedate, according to my company: but never, ah never so happy as when listning to the sweet musick of female softness, and enjoying that converse which above all others, pleases and humanizes the heart: I rattle amidst such ladies as are fond of it, on nonsense, news, and dress; and enter into all the common place topics of the veriest trifler of the age; and even hence (strange as it may seem) can frequently pick scraps of morality; many of which possibly may hereafter meet with a kind reception from the public. I fill'd my first number with many other little articles which concern'd my design, but as that is now abortive, will

proceed to read what I intended for my second paper.

The LIBERTINE. No. 2.

*A pure ingenuous elegance of Soul,
A delicate refinement known to few.*
Thomson.

THE importance of the marriage state demands that nothing should on any hand be omitted which tends to the encrease of its felicity: and I may venture to affirm, few, who involve themselves in it, meet with half the pleasure they might reasonably expect, from a deficiency in that virtue I propose recommending to all those who are under the protection of *Hymen*. The virtue I mean is, *Delicacy*; which one would imagine was to be found more frequently in high than low life, but very erroneously; for though the lovers may awhile affect something like it, 'tis all with the freedoms of man and wife entirely laid aside. Dean *Swift's* humorous tale may at least serve to shew us the interests of the fair, to make us believe them as *angelic* as they can, to appear as refined as our fond fancies are apt to imagine, and as divine as the young lovers warm raptures conceive them.

'Tis strange ladies should think their whole business done, when they have got their lover fast link'd, and that there is no occasion for any other tie than that of marriage: *Venus's* girdle, the bond of affection should never be loosened; and their arts ought to be as strenuously employ'd in preserving as they are in procuring the fondness of their lovers. When a fine and delicate

delicate creature has long been the pursuit of a warm *inamorato*, whose charms have ever appeared pure as the virgin snow, all her behaviour of the most tender nature, and her whole conduct the most amiable and engaging, what raptures does he conceive? and what in reality for some time enjoy? But when he finds in a little time this soul of his soul, this *life's companion and his sister friend*, no longer studious of her charms, indifferent in the little niceties she before took such pains with, rather indulging in freedoms, which indeed so close an alliance gives licence to, but which are much better forborn, all his wonted tenderness subsides, and he begins to look upon her as *mere woman*, that wears off into contempt, and who knows not the unhappy consequences?

I would not have the ladies imagine, I find fault with them alone in this respect, and think the men excusable; far from it; I believe them more blameable, and oftner transgressing the bounds of delicacy, than the ladies. 'Tis difficult on so delicate a subject to write with delicacy: I dare only give hints, which I trust people of sense will be wise enough to see: fools can never be happy in a married state. However, without offence to the ladies I may speak one word to their husbands by the bye, which is from an *honest old Græcian*, and which (I must own) appeared to be once highly absurd.

Μη δ' αἰδοία—εὐδοκίαν οὐκ
Εἶσι μὲν γὰρ παρὰ φαντασίαν
ἀλλ' ἀληθεύει.

Yet sure *Hesiod* was very much in the right; and in many other things

of the like kind, the strictest delicacy ought to be observed. The heathen mysteries were always esteem'd the more sacred, the more secret they were kept; so would it be in the mysteries of *Hymen*; enjoyment would gain new relish from the fair *wife's* still retaining the mistress; and pleasure, the more refined and elegant it was, become the more heavenly and transporting. For my part, ladies, (for know I am a husband only in speculation) I interid, when happy with my adored *Lucy*, to live all my life in courtship: not such a courtship as the formal laws of love require; but a courtship heighten'd by the joys of matrimony, and rendered more pleasing by bliss, as the bliss more divine by the delicacy that shall attend it. I propose never to intrude on the retirement of my wife; but to introduce something of that paradisaical state, something of that love and tenderness, *Milton* seems to have been so well acquainted with—when, after the *general mother* has breath'd forth her soft story, the

— with eyes
Of conjugal attraction unreprou'd,
And meek surrender, half embracing
lean'd
On our first father: half her swelling
breast
Naked met his, under the flowing gold
Of her loose tresses hid: he (in delight
Both of her beauty and submissive charms)
Smil'd with superior love; as Jupiter
On Juno smiles, when he impregns the
clouds,
That shed May flow'rs; and press'd her
marion lip
With kisses pure. — B. 4. V. 492.

As I was pleasing myself with these fond reflections, and imagining I could render the married state

state one continued scene of felicity, a deep sleep seiz'd me, and methought *Hymen* appear'd before me.

— *Forthwith up to the clouds
With him I flew —*

and as we sailed along one of them, the softest musick rung through the meadow, (for the bosom of the cloud seem'd only like a more blooming earth) and at a distance a crowd advanced surrounded with every thing that bespoke gaiety and mirth. "O what a wretched earth is ours, I immediately began to murmur, when there is such pleasure and transport, such superior delight in these happy regions" — for every rapture crowded on me, and the very air breathed sweetness and bliss ineffable. As the throng approach'd, I perceiv'd two graceful personages lead the way, strewing flowers. Their aspects were somewhat different; the one look'd round with noble self-approbation; her mien was august and grand, and her whole carriage free; the other fix'd her eyes upon the ground, and tho' equally genteel, was of a softer cast.

*She was right fair, and modest of
demean.* Spenser.

Upon enquiry I found they were *Virtue* and *Modesty*, the bride-maids to the couple following, with whose appearance I was more than commonly charmed. In the person of the bridegroom I saw every thing that was amiable, like *Maia's* son he stood — His beauty was not of the softer kind; 'twas noble and expressive; his every feature spoke; grandeur appear'd in him, mixt with humility, and with the noblest deportment, the most becoming

tenderness. But if the bridegroom thus charmed me, think what must be the case, when I beheld the fair bride? Her look was compos'd of that of her two handmaids; all their graces were hers; and thousands of her own shone out amongst them; her looks were love and softness; her robe was pure white, emblem of herself, that beloved *Delicacy* I so much admir'd, whom *Sense* had then taken to be his bride: Two smiling boys walk'd by their side, two held their train; their pretty dewy locks distill'd *Ambrosia*, and they were called *Tenderness* and *Good-Nature*, *Forbearance* and *Complaisance*: Behind drawn by milk-white heifers, a goodly personage follow'd, crowded round by thousands of youths and virgins: In her brow there appear'd such serenity and content, I soon knew that all-sought lady *Happiness*: *Love*, *Pleasure*, *Mirth*, *Youth*, and all their train were very sedulous in their duty, and well received: But above all *Hymen* delighted me, who laugh'd and sung incessantly, ever and anon flying to the pair and trimming his torch, singing Hymeneals, and triumphing over a train, that were chain'd behind and dragged along by little smiling *Cupid*, growling and roaring: they were *Ambition*, *Interest*, *Avarice*, *Pride*, *Folly*, *False-love*, or *Anteros*, *Lust*, *Jealousy*, and several more common Contractors of modern Marriages, but in reality the worst of *Love* and *Hymen's* foes, and the sure introducers of misery to the nuptial bed. Their groans awaken'd me, and the vision vanish'd.

I could have wish'd, my friend, said *Politian*, you had carried your
K k scheme

scheme into execution: However we shall expect constantly to see your lucubrations in private.

I know POLITIAN, said Sir LIONEL, your great *skill* in astronomical matters: Will you favour me with your opinion of this alteration of the Stiles which makes so much noise amongst us? *A propos*, says he, I have just received an excellent dissertation from a most judicious friend of mine, which will, I dare say, be very agreeable to all this company.

Difference of the Julian and Gregorian Stiles, and Reasons for our conforming to the latter.

“THE diurnal and annual revolutions of the sun, says a celebrated writer, as having been from the beginning of nature, constant and regular, and universally observable by all mankind, and supposed equal to one another have been with reason made use of for the measure of duration.” The different phases of the moon have also been observed more or less by all nations to the same purpose. The antient Romans were so exact in this particular as to have an officer, whose business it was to proclaim the first appearance of the new moon. This proclamation they expressed by *calare*, and thence the word *calendar* among them denoted the beginning of the month. Something of this sort remains among the most barbarous nations to this

day, for *Dampier* informs us in his travels, that even the *Hottentots* sing and dance all night at the new and full of the moon. And though this is probably done on a superstitious account, yet the constant return of these festivities must furnish even those *Savages* with a tolerable measure of time, and give them some idea of a certain determinate period of duration.

What the year was by which the Romans reckoned before the time of *Julius Caesar*, is neither necessary nor easy *exactly* to determine, since the hints transmitted to us from antiquity on this subject are too vague and uncertain to build a certain theory upon. But that the year instituted by *Romulus* was in some sense *Lunar* is more than probable, and that it consisted of ten months is almost certain from *Ovid. Fast. lib. i. v. 27.*

Tempora digereret cum conditor urbis, in anno

Constituit menses quinque bis esse suo.

But whatever was *Romulus's* year, *Numa Pompilius* his successor altered it, and probably added two other months, *viz. January* and *February* to it, and settled the common year to 355 days. But it was evident even in that infancy of astronomy, that this could not possibly correspond with the * tropical year, which the antient astronomers seem to have imagined equal to 366 days. But however as this last was an un-

* The tropical year is that space of time in which the sun going from any of the cardinal points, returns to the same again, and consists of 365 days, five hours, and 48' 57"

lucky number according to the prevailing superstition of those times, since *numero Deus impare gaudet*, either for this or some other reason unknown to us, he ordered that the common year should be reckoned equal to 355 days, leaving a power with the pontifices to intercalate the remaining days as they thought fit. This power, however inconsiderable it may appear at first sight, was attended with very considerable consequences. For by this means the pontifices gained a great influence in civil matters. If they had a mind to favour a magistrate, or to give an advantage to a farmer of the public revenues, they made the year longer than ordinary by an undue intercalation; and on the other hand, if they disliked a magistrate, or were willing to do a disservice to a publican, they made no intercalation when they ought to have done it. But dislike had been of more weight than good will, for more days had been unduly omitted than had been unduly added, so that in *Julius Caesar's* time the year, for want of proper intercalations was become too short: The beginning of the civil year had gone backwards in respect of the seasons. Therefore, when this great man, as *Pontifex Maximus* undertook to remedy this, his first business was to add all the days that had been omitted by former pontifices from the old *Roman* year of 355 days, and also to add ten more days to bring it to *his* account of 365 days to a year. The days which had been omitted by former pontifices amounted to no less than 80, so that in the whole the year,

in which he reformed the calendar, contained 365 and 80 days, i. e. 445 days. This is called by *Macrobius*, *annus ultimus confusionis*, the last year of confusion, by others *annus confusionis* the year of confusion.

Cæsar supposed that this year of 365 days was six hours shorter than the true tropical year. (These six hours in four years amount to a day, and therefore in every fourth *Julian* year he directed that a day should be added or intercalated, or that every fourth year should consist of 366 days. And this year is called *Bissextile ob bis sext. calend. mart.* because in that year there are two sixths of the calends of *March*, or two 24ths of *February*.) But in this supposition he was a little mistaken for the tropical year consists only of 365 days five hours 49 Minutes, and consequently the *Julian* years may be reckoned, one with another, eleven minutes longer than the tropical, which excels in 131 years amounts very nearly to one day.

This small difference, notwithstanding the *Julian* account, was a good civil measure of time, and very well served all the purposes of common life. And this was the received method of computing the year throughout the *Roman* empire till the time of pope *Gregory XIII.* who made a further reformation of the calendar.

Gregorian or New-Style.

At the time of the council of *Nice* in the year of *Christ* 325, the vernal equinox happened on the 21st of *March*. In the year 1582, pope *Gregory XIII.* found that it had gone backwards ten days, and

happened on the 11th of *March*. From hence it appeared that the *Julian* year, by which they then reckoned had been ten days too long between the time of the council of *Nice*, and the year 1582. *Gregory* determined therefore to throw these ten days out of the calendar, which he did by ordering that what wou'd otherwise have been the 5th of *October* should be reckoned the 15th, and thus what would otherwise have been the 11th of *March* became the 21st, so that the equinox, which if this had not been done, would have happened on the 11th of *March*, was reduced to the 21st. Wherever his authority was admitted, this change was made in the account of time, but in *England* it was not received by the zeal of the reformers; who probably thought that this would look too much like attributing some sort of authority to the Pope in ecclesiastical and civil matters. The first difference between the old and new, or *Julian*, or *Gregorian* stile, was 10 days. But as a space exceeding 131 years has passed since the time of Pope *Gregory*, the foreigners have intercalated another day, so that what is with us *March* 16th, is with them *March* 27th.

But there is also another difference between the new and old stile, namely, that the former begins the year with the 1st of *January*; but our ecclesiastical and legal year begins on the feast of the *Annunciation* of the blessed *Virgin*, commonly called *Lady-day*. Thus this present day, *March* 16th is wrote in the legal

old stile, *March* 16th 1750. by the N. S. *March* 16th 1751. Nay, by thus beginning the year from the 25th of *March*, we differ not only from foreigners, but from each other. Thus a lawyer would write, *March* 16th 1750. A tradesman *March* 16th 1750-1. And perhaps a politician different from both, *March* 16th 1751.

But I am anticipating what I was to consider in the second place, namely, the reasons for altering our stile from the old to the new form. And indeed I have been so large on the former part, and the advantages of changing our present stile, are so obvious, that I shall but just hint some of the principal ones.

And 1st, our year, after such an alteration, will nearly coincide with the true tropical solar year.

2dly We shall be able at first sight, to perceive the exact date of any foreign transactions.

3dly We shall have a common, fixed, and invariable date among ours.

4thly The chronology of our public affairs will be in no danger of being confounded hereafter by the uncertain dates of our public papers. I have seen one of the speeches from the throne, bearing three different dates. Suppose 1744, 1744-5, and 1745.

If these, and many other arguments, which might easily be added, are not sufficient to prevail on some bigotted antiquarians, willingly to forsake their old *Mumpsimus*, I must take leave of them, wishing they would pay a greater regard to common sense, and

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and not think every thing sacred which is rusted over by antiquity.

Have you seen the new paper, call'd the *London Advertiser* and *Literary Gazetteer*? said HILARIO. In this number here's a critique on *Alfred*; I'll read it you.

AS we shall professedly make the publick entertainments at the theatres the subject of many of our occasional observations in the introductory part of this paper, the masque of *Alfred*, performed at this time to the satisfaction of crowded audiences, has a claim to our present attention.

It has been observed of many of the new theatrical productions, that though they please on the stage, under the advantages of action and ornament, they make but a very bad entertainment in the closet: Our late comedies have given us very strong proofs of the truth of this; but to the honour of the subject of our present observations, we may venture to assert, that it will please more on an attentive reading than it does on the stage. The established characters of the principal performers in it, will secure us from the suspicion of intending to reflect on them in this assertion; yet we are in no doubt, but that every judge who has given it a hearing there, and a reading at home, will join in our opinion.

The original plan of this masque was laid between the late Mr. *Thomson* and Mr. *Mallet*; and the perfecting of it in its first form

was the joint work of both: As we have it at present, it is almost entirely Mr. *Mallet's*. That gentleman has been at the pains of adapting it to the stage; he has made *Alfred* the capital character, which was not the case before; and has found it necessary to omit so much of Mr. *Thomson's* part in the original, that as he very modestly expresses it in his advertisement, The faults that the world may see in it (and we are to add the greatest part of its beauties also) are wholly his own.

The story is this: The *Danes* have conquered the *English* forces by surprize; they are in possession of the kingdom; and *Alfred*, after leaving his queen and children in a convent, retires to an obscure corner of the island, where he is lodged in disguise with a shepherd. The ravage of the *Danes* makes it unsafe for the queen to remain where she was placed: She flies with her children to the very spot where the king is: The *Danes* are rioting after their success, and in this situation *Alfred* attacks them behind with a party of resolute troops, while a sally is at the same instant made upon them in front, from the garison of a besieged fort; the enemy is routed, the *Danish* king made prisoner, and the kingdom restored to peace.

The author has happily added to the distress of the scene by throwing the queen into the way of the *Danish* prince; and to the character of *Alfred*, by making him her deliverer without his knowing that it is her he saves. In order to throw the whole into the form of a masque, a hermit

is introduced with something of magic power, and spirits are occasionally brought in with songs of exhortation or praise.

The whole is delivered in the stile and manner of tragedy: It is full of sentiment; and the language is nervous, clear, and expressive; and, wherever it ought to be so, sublime. The characters are all supported justly through the whole, and the event is very artfully concealed from the audience till the very instant in which it is disclosed. The author has shewn a masterly skill in this important article: The hermit is introduced looking into the womb of time, and telling *Alfred* what shall be the fortune of his posterity: Under this circumstance, we expect every moment to hear what is to be the event of his present daring enterprize, and so to see the catastrophe anticipated; but the sage tells him, that clouds impenetrable hang over that scene, and by his manner of expressing himself, while the hero reconciles himself to the uncertainty, we are giving him up as a sacrifice to his country. The fate of *Alfred* is in this manner artfully suspended, and when the news of the victory arrives, we still are in pain for him till we are told he is unhurt.

The news of a battle is generally a very tedious harangue in the *English* tragedy: Mr. *Mallet* has very happily deviated from the common method on this occasion, and given it in as few words as possible. The queen of *England*, and the wife of *Alfred*, is to ask, what is the fate of her country

and her husband? The messenger prevents the first question by

————— *Success is ours:*

and to the second, when *Eltruda* has but pronounced the word king, he answers,

Returns victorious and unhurt.

We can declare for the satisfaction of the audience in this, as we shared in it; as to the character of the queen, nature declares sufficiently that it has all the merit toward her that a relation could have.

The sentiment,

*Who loves his country, is my friend
and brother,*

has a warmth in it that every *English* breast must feel, and love the author for; and the charge of *Alfred* to the hermit when he entrusts the care of his children's education to him is as true a lesson for the instruction of a royal infant as ever was declared.

Let truth and virtue be their earliest teachers.

*Keep from their ear the syren-voice
of flattery;*

*Keep from their eye the harlot-form
of vice,*

*Who spread, in every court, their
silken snares,*

*And charm but to betray. Betimes
instruct them,*

*Superior rank demands superior
worth;*

*Pre-eminence of valour, justice,
mercy;*

*But chief, that tho' exalted o'er
mankind,*

They

*They are themselves but men—frail
suffering dust;
From no one injury of human lot
Exempt; but sever'd by the same
beat, chill'd
By the same cold, torn by the same
disease,
That scorches, freezes, racks, and
kills the beggar.*

Mr. Garrick perhaps never is greater than while he speaks these lines; the very soul of the author seems to inspire him, while he pronounces them: He is excellent in many other passages of a like kind in this performance; and we are to do him the justice to own that the expressive attitude by which he conveys to us his amazement at the aerial music in the middle of the first act is by much the greatest thing of the kind we have seen on the stage.

The queen commands a share of praise hardly second to this. Her part is but a short one; but her manner of executing it joins with her *Almeria* and *Juliet* in presaging, that while Miss Bellamy lives, the loss of that great ornament of our stage Mrs. Cibber will not be irreparable.

In one of the late oratorios Sig. Galli's pronouncing the words, *Mene, Tekel, Peres*, prov'd the greatest thing in the whole; and as a similar circumstance we may add, that this lady's pronouncing the word *Alfred*, when she first discovers that it is he who has preserved her, might have been the first thing in many an applauded performance. Whatever advantage the performance has in the representation, however, from these two great players, the subal-

terns more than compensate for by a superior weight of badness: *Corin* contrives to turn some very grave and sensible expressions into farce, by his manner of pronouncing them; and *Emma* finds the way to be still worse than he. These characters are in themselves indeed unfit for such a piece; and if judged quite necessary to the plan they ought to have been very well supported in the performing.

What think you of it? For my part, replied SALMANUS, I think the writer a good-natur'd observer, that sees beauties and passes over faults: Mr. Mallet has done well to own his faults, for surely the original masque is greatly preferable, all the finest parts being omitted in this: when *Alfred* is to see the glories of his race, what are they but a parcel of infernal spirits, dancing a confus'd dance? There's shew indeed, and many just sentiments: there's music, but most miserable, except *Arne's* two songs: and good dresses, but wretched wearers. Can any thing be so vile as the last piece of unnecessary rant from that burlesque of tragedy the king of the *Danes*? Upon the whole, I think the piece a true specimen of the *English* taste: it is not so entirely deprav'd as to relish what has only shew and sound, but requires some merit and sentiment: a little of that will go far: but sound sense and moving scenes, without shew and pomp, parade and pageantry, will never down with our squeamish stomachs, —*O Tempora, O Mores.*" I must tell you, said POLITIAN, good SALMANUS, you err in that part of your criticism: for we can re-
lish

lish things that have only shew and sound: *Queen Mab*, and the *Covent-Garden* hero for that.—

“Poo, stuff, says he, let’s hear no more of them. Pray, have any of you read the *Tempest* lately? I cannot help thinking the *Masque* introduc’d there is none of *Shakespeare’s*; the many compound words and harsh expressions, —the line,

— the queen o’ th’ sky,
Whose watry arch and messenger
am I.

with many others equally absurd, persuade me it was introduc’d by the players. “I cannot think so, says *POLITIAN*; as to the compound words, *Shakespeare* uses ’em very frequently every where, but more particularly in his poems: and that there was something to be shewn, appears plainly from *Prospero’s* words,

— For I must
Bestow upon the eyes of this young
couple,
Some vanity of mine art.

which I take to have been the *masque* in question: and ’tis observable, the rhymes of those days were very frequently forc’d conceits and unnatural strains: yet I can’t think but there are many epithets and expressions which speak it * *Shakespeare’s*.—“Well, I must continue yet in doubt, replied *SALMANUS*: but pray, *POLITIAN*, don’t you remember how frequently we have discours’d on the merits of the translators of

Virgil, the most difficult author in the world, as I imagine, to translate: observe how ill *Dryden* and *Pitt* have succeeded in the very beginning,—which is by no means the least beautiful part of the poem: *Virgil* makes us acquainted in a few words, and those the most elegant and expressive, with his whole design: one would have thought the translators should have been more than ordinarily careful to preserve the beauties of the introduction;—observe.

— *Trojae qui primus ab oris
Italiam, fato profugus, Lavinaque
venit
Littora* —

there is a full pause, and the *fato profugus* in the midst is peculiarly beautiful: then

— *Multum ille est terris jactatus
est alto
Vi superum, sava memorem Junonis
ob iram:
Multa quoque est bello passus, dum
conderet urbem,
Inferretque Deos Latio.*

on which lies the stress of the next beautiful line,

— *Genus unde Latinum
Albanique patres atque altae Mœnis
Romæ.*

All this *Dryden* translates thus.

—, who forc’d by fate,
And haughty *Juno’s* unrelenting hate;
Expell’d and exil’d, left the Trojan
shore:
Long labours both by sea and land
he bore:

* We should be glad of the opinion of some of our correspondents on this head.

And in the doubtful war, before he won

The Latian realms, and built the destin'd town:

His banish'd gods restor'd to rites divine,

And settled sure succession in his line:

From whence the race of Alban fathers come;

And the long glories of majestic Rome.

Pitt translates it thus, not more concisely nor I fear more justly.

— The first who bore,

His course to Latium from the Trojan shore:

By fate expell'd, by land and ocean lost;

Before he reach'd the fair Lavinian coast;

Down'd by the gods a length of wars to wage,

And urg'd by Juno's unrelenting rage:

Ere the brave hero rais'd in these

His destin'd walls, and for'd his wand'ring gods

Hence the fam'd Latian line and se-

And the proud triumphs and the towers of Rome.

Come, says HILARIO, let us drop the duller discussions of criticism, and indulge in some select pieces of poetry: I have got a Rhapsody here written in imitation of most of our favourite poets: a young shepherd is introduc'd complaining of the difficulties and dangers that attend poetry, and is at length by his cares lull'd asleep; and by the goddess Fancy brought to those happy climes where the *pii vates* reside, who pass in review, and in their own styles give him their opinion on the subject in

hand: Chaucer, Spenser, and Milton are just gone—the last — With majestic tread retir'd.

WHEN *Matthew*, gentle hard drew near,

With easy unaffected air;

With open freedom in his face,

And smiling sweet bewitching grace:

Careless across his arm was hung,

The lyre so softly erst he strung;

When *Love* and *Phyllis* tun'd the string.

Or *Paul's* wife, or *Carvel's* ring:

Young *Cupid* brought it from above,

The present of the queen of *Love*:

(The lyre, 'tis said, gay *Hermes* gave her,

Return for some no trivial favour:—)

Swift o'er the strings his fingers fly,

As swift the tuneful strains reply.

"The poet oft who thinks he's won

The loftiest throne on *Helicon*;

Who hears the glorious trump of fame,

Resound his great immortal name:

Who proudly views succeeding ages,

With wonder read his deathless pages;

All fond to shew their approbation,

By comment, note, or observation:

In sober grief must oft complain,

His gilded hopes and prospects vain.

Nay, just the same in life holds good,

As with the ryming brotherhood:

"Men will have wild ambitious

"fancies,

"And wanton wenches read ro-

"mances."

No wonder these are downward

hurl'd,

From fancy's skies to folly's world:

And grumbling lye in humble sort,

The joke of fools, and fortune's sport:

No wonder, wild by inclination,

Oft cracks the nymph and reputation;

The false gallant, ah! cruel lost,

Abra can witness to her cost.

Too oft where center all our joys,

The center gain'd the joy deceives;

A title's wish'd but gain'd soon

cloys,

** repents, and *Pollio* grieves.

But whether tends this idle strain,
Dull morals only lull the brain:
Well, faith, 'tis true, a merry tale
May prove our point when precepts
fail.

A bard there was in antient days,
Who sung and wrote the best of lays:
None sweeter known or more com-
mended,

Of all that to our times descended;
But yet these lays so fam'd and good
By few were read;—less understood,
In foreign language bars immur'd.
And more by erring texts obscur'd:
Thus half their beauties were un-
known;—

We'll not expatiate: what was done?
A D**r learned, grave, and wise,
A scholar? shrewd, a critic? nice;
These blundering faults resolv'd to
clear,

And see the bard in garb appear;
The very fame, 'tis said, he wore,
Gods, many hundred years before!

To work he goes, puts in and out,
Explains and—adds full many a
doubt:

'Tis done: prepar'd the doctor's
mission:

Out comes the work,—a grand edi-
tion!

All wond'ring view, and scarcely
know 'em,

So much was varied every poem:

Some praise, some jeer the variations,
And much was talk'd of emendations.

But what low fries of critic's said,
Concern'd not much the doctor's
head;

Convinc'd of worth enough at home,
He doubts not honours soon will
come:

Puff'd up he swells, and fancying
fame,

One night to bed to *J** he came:
And planning schemes in visionary,
Sleep stopt his vanity and care.

Lo then in dream the bard he meets,
And with low leg submissive greets:

* *The D**r's wife.*

"Thanks, doctor, for your learned
labour,

"Quoth poet, I confess the favour:
To view such beauties you have

"brought,

"That I ne'er dreamt of once, or
thought:

"Expung'd old words so trite,
so low,

"Inserting such delightful new,
Nothing can pay the debt I owe;

"But for an earnest of more honour,
I bring you here, a thankful donor;

"The mitre, staff, and holy key,
Of your much lov'd and wis'd for

Sec."

The doctor stretch'd his hand in
haste,

And grasp'd the proffer'd mitre fast:
As soft as ermin to the touch—

"Oh, Sir,—I did not hope so much,"
He cries—poor J** dare not stir,

Left he shou'd squeeze and pull her
more:

"What is't, quoth she, my dear,
you've done?"

"Oh, dame, the bishopric's my
own"

"Yes, doctor, and long since,—you
know"

"But pray, for God's sake, dear,
let go"

Thus hoping fame's high gifts to
share,

Oft grasps the hand but empty air:
Alas the world's oft cheated so:

The moral's in *propatulo*."

They all expressing great appro-
bation, HILARIO promis'd some

future time to favour 'em with other
imitations from the poem; and

beg'd the rest of the company to
read such as he approv'd, either

originals or extracts, without far-
ther ceremony: upon which the

following pieces were read; and
after common compliments, find-

it grew late, the club broke up.

To SYLVIA in the Country.

AN EPISTLE.

If SYLVIA ought a faithful Muse can move,
Excuse the Poet, and the Friend approve.
In those Retreats, where ev'ry Sylvian Scene,
Spreads thro' the peaceful Breast a mild serene;
Where freed from Noise, Impertinence, and shew,
The laughing Coxcomb, and the fluttering Beau,
No airy Fancies, no delusive Joy,
Call off thy Reason, and thy Thoughts employ;
Some gentle Precepts to thy Mind may Real,
And point those Cares that for thy Sake I feel.

Say where's the Bard that aims the tuneful Song,
For kind Instruction, to the fair and young.
To teach them how by Wisdom's Rules to steer,
Not idly gay, nor rigidly severe.
The Tongues of ill-bred Censure to avoid,
Or else despise them with becoming Pride.
To swim down smoothly Life's uncertain Stream,
To every future Age the shining Theam?

When in the World we venture first abroad,
Secure and bold, we try th' adventurous Road;
Weak is our Judgment, and perverse our Will,
We fear no Malice, for we mean no ill.
Unnumber'd frolics hence Reflection blind,
And crowd the glittering Toyshop of the Mind.
Till by Experience we're convinc'd too late,
The nicest Conduct scarce is free from Hate.

A vulgar Name in dull Oblivion dies;
Envy still marks the beauteous, good, and wise;
Their Foibles catches with a mean delight,
And clouds their Virtues be they ne'er so bright.

If Dirt to gather be the World to know,
How wise *Menaleas* are thy Beasts that plow.

'Tis not at Balls, Assemblies, or at Plays,
We learn Mankind disguised ten thousand Ways.

Those, oft how different do we see, retir'd,
Abroad, that charm'd, and were by all admir'd.

Most act in publick by a forc'd Restraint,
At Home, the Passions take their native bent.

'Tis easy there a Crowd of Friends to find,
To slander here, and to detract inclin'd.

Say who is this deserted and forlorn,
Her Sex's Envy once, and now the Scorn.—
Unhappy C—— si with that Fortune curst,

Which ripening Virgins dread of all the worst,

No gaudy Fops the fading Form carest,
The Shadow only of the Toast she was.
How chang'd from her that flatter'd, proud and vain,

Shone the first Idol in the female Train.

Fools lose the Empire which their Eyes procure,
Good Sense alone can make the Conquest sure:

Beauty indeed inflames us with Desire,
But 'tis good Nature must keep up the Fire.

Time on your Roses, and your Lillies preys,

Kindness creates a Flame that ne'er decays.
That when the Storm and Rage of Love is past,

Form the fond Friendship that with Life will last.

At Distance kept, luxurious in your Praise,

We call you perfect Goddesses in Stays,
Till oft admitted and familiar grows,
Your Power we slight, and all your Charms disown.

Too cheap's that Maid that knows not to deny,

Alike the forward and the prude we fly.
A decent Freedom, mix'd with just reserve,
Our sickly Stomachs neither cloy nor starve.

The glorious Medium is by all confest,
(Tho' most mistake it yet) in all the best.
Coaches and Liveries are mere outside Shew,

And oft conceal a Mind surcharg'd with Wee.

Tinsel and Pomp the undiscerning Cheat,
Content alone makes ev'ry Station great.

In search of Pleasure, vainly do we roam,

True Pleasure's only to be found at Home.
A Life just rais'd above or Doubt or Care,

Blest with one Friend, wife, social and sincere.

Sedate our Reason, our Affections even,
And setting free to Earth, aspir'd for Heaven.

—This SYLVIA this is Paradise below,
And all ordain'd for Virtue and for you!

A Hymn

A Hymn to the Supreme.

Χαίρει μὴτα, κροῖσθι παντοκράτωρ, δοτορ
 ταν,
 Αὐτορ ἀνθρωπίνης τῆς ὁ γυμνασῆς τῆς
 καὶ αἰδοί ;
 Οὐ γινῆς, καὶ ἰσθῆς τῆς καὶ ΔΙΟΣ ἄρ-
 μοῦ αἰσῆς ;

CALLIMACHUS.

HOW every way unworthy of thy
 love
 Great God, is erring man? plum'd with
 vain thoughts
 Of self-approving science, proud he deems
 Himself, poor worm, sufficient: yet how
 blind,
 How lost, how impotent are all his ways?
 What wou'd he boast,---of knowledge?
 yet behold,
 How small the circle that contains the sun
 The very wisest dare pretend to know!
 And even the poor short present is our all
 Of certainty, the rest, conjecture, night,
 And dim imagination! why contend
 Tongue-doughty disputants? why vainly
 strive
 To shew us human pride with fullest glare.
 In the broad glass of human ignorance?
 I read you well: you cavil to display
 Profusion of yourselves: cease, cease and
 know
 That all your boasted science is a dream,
 A phantom, and a point---Reflect on God!
 Whose eye surveys all times, all things, all
 space,
 Think of th' omnipotent, scholar, and be
 proud!
 But chance the prince, the statesman or
 the peer
 Wou'd yield up human science, and of pow'r
 Presumptuous boast---Look, monarch, on
 the skies,
 Ask who that glorious planet of the night
 Walking in brightness form'd? who stud-
 ded o'er
 The immeasurable vast of heav'n with stars?
 A thousand suns midst thousand systems fix'd
 And gave the heavens their glories? This
 was God!
 And can thy might ought similar atchieve?
 Can'st thou treat one atom? hast thou
 power
 One atom to destroy? yet this fair globe
 And all its glowing beauties daily speak
 The artificer divine! and thou, O king,
 Wilt boast a battle gain'd, an empire won,
 A point in space, and what thy God's good
 will
 Permits thee share! Of trivial things like
 these,
 Ah vaunt no more: compar'd with him,
 who gave

Thy body breath, far measser, mighty
 princeIs thy illustrious greatness, than compar'd
 With thee, the meanest reptile on the
 globe!Some in their wealths abundance place
 their trust,And glory in the precious ore: who form'd
 Proud hoarder, all that gilded dust you
 reapWith care incessant and unsleeping toil?
 Vast is this little earth---of which one
 veinPregnant with thy lov'd mammon, wou'd
 bestowMore affluence than thy most sanguine wish
 Has ever hop'd: yet various mountains
 swellWith veins so envied: various earths there
 are,Exceeding this, where emmet-like thou
 toil'st,And various mountains in those various
 earthsAnd in those various mountains, various
 veinsInnumerable! and of those even one
 Is more than all thy riches: yet all these
 Are God's---are thy creators! envy them
 Such wealth, exceeding so immensely thine,
 And thro' revenge, dull miser, grow
 profuse!I wonder, mighty Lord, and trembling
 standReflecting on myself! how great, how wise,
 How good beyond expression, how immensely
 How powerful, how transcendently divine,
 Art thou, are all thy works! how im-
 potentHow ignorant, offending, vain and weak,
 How poor a Thing am I? and yet thou
 deign'stTo shewer thy goodness on me! every day
 Even I, and all mankind (let all unite
 With me in general praise!) even I and all
 Each day, each hour, each minute, taste
 from thee,Thy cup of blessing: Lord, our very life
 Our being every moment claims our praise,
 Our preservation never-ending thanks!Hail power, eternal, infinite, immense,
 Creator, and redeemer, Lord of life,
 All-good, all-wise, all-perfect, all-divine!
 Increase my ardor, elevate my soul
 And draw me from this idle, useless world
 To better thoughts, the thoughts of that
 to come!Let me not beg of blessings from thy hand
 But for increase of virtue: gracious, pour
 Thy holy spirit on my soul: so make
 Thy servant perfect, fit for heav'n and
 thee:And thou art good! oh guide me with thy
 hand,

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Cure all the fond vain evils of my heart;
And stifle every growing folly there;
— Oh my Redeemer, kindly condescend
To hear my prayer and yet without
If it seems good bestow the boon I wish,
Thou know'st my thoughts — if not,
thy will be done

On a young LADY deceas'd.

IN dawn of life she wisely fought her
God,
And the fruit path of thorny virtue
trod,
In bloom of beauty humbly turn'd aside
The incense flattery offer'd to her pride.
In others griefs, a tender part she bore,
And all the needy shar'd her little store.
Fond to oblige, too gentle to offend,
Belov'd by all, to all the good a friend:
The bad she censur'd by her life alone,
Blind to their faults, severe upon her own.
At distance view'd the world with pious
dread,
And to God's temple for protection fled;
There sought that peace which Heaven
alone can give,
And learn'd to die e'er others learn to
live.

EPIGRAM.

IN *Mortem* gloriosum, *sapienter*
sele jactantem Ar. Tit.
Armigeri scite jactatur Morio nomen,
jactari nihilum praterea quod
habet.

RECIPE for an ASTHMA.

(From the Gentleman's Magazine.)

MY good old friend! accept
from me
The following rules without a fee.
An asthma is your case, I think,
So you must neither eat nor drink;
I mean of meat preserv'd in salt,
Or any liquor made of malt.
From season'd sauce avert your
eyes,
From hams, and tongues, and pigeon
pies
If ven'son pasty's set before ye,
Each bit you eat *memento mori*.
Your supper nothing, if you please,
But above all no toasted cheese.

* We shou'd be oblig'd to our correspondents for a translation.

'Tis likely you will now observe,
What I prescribe will make you
starve:

No, I allow you at a meal,
A neck, a loin, or leg of veal.
Young turkeys I allow you four,
Partridge and pullets half a score.
Of house-lamb boil'd eat quarters
two,

The devil's in't if that wont do—
Now as to liquor, why, indeed,
What I advise, I send you, mead.
Glasses of this t' extinguish drought,
Take three with water, three without.
Let constant exercise be try'd,
And sometimes walk, and sometimes
ride:

Health oftner comes from *Blackdown*
hill

Than from th' apothecary's bill.
Be not in haste, nor think to do
Your business with a purge or two;
Some, if they are not well at once,
Proclaim their doctor for a dunce:
Restless from quack to quack they
range,

When 'tis themselves they ought to
change;

Nature hates violence and force,
By method led and gentle course;
Rules and restraint you must endure,
What comes by time, 'tis time must
cure.

The use of vegetables try,
And prize *Pomona* in a pye.

Whate'er you eat put something good
in,

And worship *Ceres* in a pudding.

Young *Bacchus*' rites you must avoid,
And *Venus* must go unenjoy'd.

For breakfast, it is my advice,
Eat gruel, sago, barley, rice.

Take burdock roots, and, by my
troth,

I'd mingle daisies in my broth.

Thus may you draw with ease your
breath,

Eluding long the dart of death.

Thus may you laugh, look clear, and
thrive,

Enrich'd by those whom you survive.

266 To Miss Bellamy.—Prologue and Epilogue to Alfred.

To Miss Bellamy on her appearing in
Tragedy with so great success

[From the British Magazine.]

O Thou fair genius of the tragic song,
Thou beauteous mourner, deign a
while to hear,
The grateful tribute of the judging throng,
While soft humanity bestows a tear.

Each grace, each attitude, is nature's own,
Thy voice is music to confirm their sway;
Each fair perfection baffles envy's frown,
While stabbing malice dies in tears away.

O could those bards, consign'd to deathless
praise,
Who mov'd the soul to salutary woe;
View radiant circles languish by their lays,
While from thy lips their melting periods
flow.

They'd own enchantment dwells upon thy
tongue,

That inspiration sparkles in these eyes;
With tend'rest transports tho' these poets
sang,
Heighten'd by thee, still varied beauties
rise.

While dress'd in nature's unaffected grace,
Thou, like sweet Juliet, deign'st awhile
to blaze,

To love's soft pow'r, each appetite gives
place,

We secret languish, or enraptur'd gaze.

May Fame long twine her myrtle round thy
head,

Long may'st thou reign the genius of the
stage;

While thou shalt own whose tender bosoms
bleed,

Another *Oldfield* melts another age.

PROLOGUE to ALFRED. By a Friend.

Spoken by Mr. Garrick.

IN arms renown'd, for arts of peace ador'd,
ALFRED, the nation's father, more
than lord.

A British author has presum'd to draw,
Struck deep, e'en now, with reverential
awe.

And sets the godlike figure fair in view—
O may discernment find the likeness true.

When *Danish* fury, with wide-wasting
hand,

Had spread pale fear, and ravage o'er the
land,

This prince arising bade confusion cease,
Bade order shine, and blest his life with peace;
Taught lib'ral arts to humanise the mind,
And heav'n-born science to sweet freedom
join'd.

We would have given our readers the occasional Prologue to *Othello*; but if
it falls into any of their hands they will readily excuse it.

United thus, the friendly sisters shone.
And one secur'd, while one adorn'd, his
throne.

Amidst these honours of his happy reign,
Each Grace and ev'ry Muse compos'd his
train:
As grateful servants, all exulting strove,
At once to spread his fame, and share his
love.

To night, if aught of fiction you behold,
Think not, in Virtue's cause, the bard too
bold.

If ever angels from the skies descend,
It must be—truth and freedom to defend.

Thus would our author please---be it
your part,
If not his labours, to approve his heart.
True to his country's, and to honour's
cause,

He fixes, there, his fame, and your applause;
Witness no failing from your fight to hide,
But by free *BAYONS*, will be freely try'd.

EPICLOGUE. Spoken by Mrs. Clive.

WHILE our grave Hermit, busy above
stairs,

Employs his serious head on state affairs,
Gallants, look here---faith I have plaid the
rogue,

And stole his wand---by way of epilogue.
You critics, there below, had best be civil:

For I, with this same rod, can play the devil;
Tye all your busy tongues up, one by one,
And turn what share of brains you have---
to stone:

The beau's soft skull convert to solid rock--
What then? --- the wig will always have
its block.

But for the men of sad and solemn face,
The deep dark fages in or out of place,
Who much in port and politicks delight,
Small change, God knows, will make them
statues quite.

The ladies too---but now these writings
sincer---

No, fair ones, you shall meet no insult here:
I only hint my power---that, if I list,
I yet can charm you two long hours from
whilst.

But, cards are ready, you are all bespoke---
To spoil a dozen drums, would be no joke.
Besides, 'twould be mere arbitrary sway:
Such as of old was us'd at *Nero's* play,
Who, when he sung and fiddled to the towns,
Still, as his subjects yawn'd, would knock
them down.

No, fir; to gain a heart, we must not
tease:

Who would engage it, first should aim to
please.

This part be mine: and if I now succeed
To my own wish, you will be pleas'd indeed.

Observations on Generation, &c. continued from page 176. and concluded.

26. MY first proofs therefore were drawn from a close attendance to all the common infusions, particularly that of wheat pounded in a marble mortar. It was plain from them all, that after some time allow'd to the water to call off the salts and volatile parts, which evaporated copiously, the substance became softer, more divided, and more attenuated. To the naked eye, or to the touch, it appear'd a gelatinous matter, but in the microscope was seen to consist of innumerable filaments; and then it was that the substance was in its highest point of exaltation, just breaking, as I may say, into life. These filaments would swell from an interior force so active, and so productive, that even before they resolv'd into, or shed any moving globules, they were perfect zoophytes teeming with life, and self-moving.

If any particle was originally very small and spherical, as many among those of the pounded seeds were, it was highly agreeable to observe its little star-like form with rays diverging on all sides, and every ray moving with extreme vivacity. The extremities likewise of this gelatinous substance exhibited the same appearances, active beyond expression, bringing forth, and parting continually with, moving progressive particles of various forms, spherical, oval, oblong, and cylindrical, which advanced in all directions spontaneously, and were the true microscopical animals to often observed by naturalists. This brings to my mind a phenomenon often ta-

ken notice of, and seen with surprise, particles detach'd by the reaction of the water from the extremities of the fins of mussels, which yet continue to move progressively. I think it sufficiently explain'd by these observations; and that it is more than probable, that mussels, polypes, and other kinds of this nature, vegetate in a manner analogous to this gelatinous matter.

27. In the infusion of pounded wheat, the first appearances, after an exhalation of volatile parts, as in every other infusion, were the second or third day clouds of moving atoms, which I suppose to have been produc'd by a prompt vegetation of the smallest and almost insensible parts, and which requir'd not so long a time to digest as the more gross. These in a day or two more intirely disappear'd; all was then quiet, and nothing to be seen, but dead irregularly formed particles, absolutely unactive 'till about fourteen or fifteen days after. From these uniting into one mass sprung filaments, zoophytes all, and swelling from a force lodged within each fibre. These were in various states, just as this force had happen'd to diversify them; some resembled pearl-necklaces, and were a kind of microscopical coralloids; others were uniform throughout their whole length, except just the very extremity, which swell'd into a head like a reed, if the force had acted equally on all sides, or like the head of a bone at its joint, if the matter in its expansion had bore to either side. These filaments were all

zoophytes, so teeming with life, that whenever, upon taking a drop from the surface of this infusion, I had separated this extremity of a filament so short as not to consist of above four or five globules chapel-like; they would advance progressively and in concert, with a sort of vermicular motion, for a little way, then fall off irregularly to one side, as if not yet fitted for progressive motion; languidly turn their extremities, and then again lie quiet for some little time. It was my fortune, however, not in this infusion only, but in many others, to find some of these chapel-like animals much smaller indeed than those of the wheat infusion; but intirely regular, constant in their vermicular motion, and which were consequently arrived to a higher degree of maturity and perfection. I own I cannot but wonder to this day at what I saw; and tho' I have now seen them so often, I still look upon them with new surprize. Yet have these phenomena serv'd me to very good purpose, and clear'd up many difficulties in my former observations.

The origin of blight in wheat, rye, and other vegetables, was no longer mysterious: An atmosphere charg'd to an extraordinary degree with humidity, now plainly appear'd sufficient, particularly while the grains were tender and replete with a milky juice in a certain degree of exaltation, to produce in them this new kind of vegetation, and to form their interior substance into filaments; which are indeed those very oels I observ'd some years ago in blighted wheat.

This agrees perfectly with ano-

ther observation made by the gentleman who translated my little essay into *French*: Some of this blighted wheat, two years after I had gather'd it, I had given to Mr. *Frenshy*, and he to this gentleman. In a note he has added, he observes, that these filaments not only recover'd life and motion, after they had been so long dry; by macerating them in water; but many broke, and discharg'd from within them globules, which mov'd with extreme vivacity. The application of the foregoing observations to this case is easy and natural; nor is it now any wonder, that these filaments, the vegetative force still residing within them, should move and resolve into globules, nor that they should have subsisted so long, full of that kind of life they are actuated with, tho' dry and without nourishment; for now they cease to be oels, as I formerly thought them.

Blighted rye, which is also so full of filaments of this nature, that the grains are swell'd in their diameters, and extended to an extraordinary length by this new kind of vegetation, exhibited nearly the same phenomena when macerated, and is to be class'd accordingly. I am told by some of the gentlemen of the *royal academy of sciences* here, that in those provinces of *France*, where this blighted rye abounds, and is made up into bread; it produces very strange effects in the poor country people who feed upon it, many of which are here found in the hospital afflicted with a very singular kind of mortification, which causes their limbs to drop off.

There

There are two sorts of blight, in one of which the grain crumbles into a black powder; and the other is that which gives these moving filaments or cels. Mr. Bernard de Jussieu tells me, that one is from a corruption of the flower, and the other of the grain.

It may not here be amiss to hazard a few queries. Do not all mortifications, and other maladies in which there appears an extraordinary exuberance of matter in any one part, proceed from a weakness, a want of resistance, and from principles of union, which give to this vegetative force, found to reside in every point of animal or vegetable substances, more play in one part than in another? For if the resistance be not equal in all parts, the exuberant matter must break forth, and cause that part to decompose; and if the habit of the body be extremely lax, the decomposition must continue; and that, in a certain extraordinary degree, we shall call a mortification. To rub a wound, or any natural sore, with salt and spirits, is found to be salutary, and preventive of mortifications; and salt I know, by observation, will immediately put a stop to these microscopical vegetations, and cause the animals to subside motionless to the bottom: Therefore it is probable, that salts and spirits are principles of union, and productive of a greater resistance in the ductile matter acted upon by this vegetative force. High living, rich wines, &c. are preservatives against many contagious epidemical distempers: do not therefore these maladies arise

from a laxer habit of body, and a more than ordinary action of this same vegetative force? And may not these, and many other phenomena of this kind, be reduced to the same principles? But this I leave to the consideration of physicians, who are better judges of the extent of these observations and principles.

The substance emitted from the globules of the *farina fecundans* of all flowers, by an action I observed some years ago, is also a substance of this nature, filamentous, and in a vegetating state: Nothing can resemble it more than the fibres of most kinds of mould; resolving all, as they do in water, into others of a much finer co texture, when the vegetation, that had been before stopped by the nitrous salts of the atmosphere, begins by the assistance of the water to act again; And I know, by observation, that all kind of mould is formed by a process of the same nature as the growth of these microscopical plants; and to be classed consequently with them, and reduced to the same principles.

I cannot finish this article without observing, that nothing can more perfectly than these wheaten filaments, represent in miniature corals, coralloids, and other sea plants, which have long been observed to be teeming also with life, and have been supposed to be the work of animals. Are not therefore all these in the same class, and is not their origin similar?

28. But these instances from common infusions, of a vegetative force residing in every microscopical point of animal or vegetable

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matter,

matter, how strong soever and surprising, were neither so wonderful or extraordinary as some others I observed after Mr. *de Buffon's* departure. From the wheaten filamentous zoophytes it was easy to infer, that they sprung from, and were productions of, the mass of matter that had subsided to the bottom of the phial. Yet this I could not obtain a sight of; nor was it possible in this way to observe them without separating them from the roots and from the mass, out of which they arose. The method the most natural therefore which occurred to me for the viewing of these zoophytes, without disturbing their vegetation, and for observing their whole process, from the origin of the plants to their last degree of maturity, was to take extreme thin slices of cork; and insert, through little holes which I made, four or five in each slice, grains of wheat or barley, or any other farinaceous seed, for these all nearly agree in the phenomena they exhibit, with the germ either turned upwards, or carefully pick'd out with the point of a penknife, to prevent their usual shooting.

These were permitted to swim upon the surface of fresh spring-water, in a glass exposed to the sun, that the whole vegetating force might be determined downwards towards the inferior moiety of each grain, which alone could in these circumstances imbibe and be saturated with moisture. This answer'd my purpose intirely; my plants grew downwards into the water like corals, but appear'd not till several days after the grains had been thus exposed; and were

at last so large and strong, that I could see them with my naked eye.

When they became thus visible, I cut off with a small pair of scissars the vegetating extremity, and placed it in a concave object-glass with water. The plants then took a new direction, follow'd the expanse of the fluid, and continu'd to vegetate, while I supplied them with water, which I did from time to time, covering them after observation with another concave object-glass, to prevent the fluid from evaporating too fast. Thus I had for the subject of my observations what I may call a microscopical island, whose plants and animals soon become so familiar to me, that I knew every animal species, and every individual plant almost without any danger of mistake; an exactness so necessary, that it would not otherwise have been possible to follow the process of this vegetation without confusion. From this time I laid aside the use of large infusions, and provided a certain number of watch-crystals, or concave object-glasses, for every portion of animal or vegetable substance I was to macerate in water. The use of these is plain and easy; many fruitful little islands of various kinds with labels and dates affixed to each may thus be obtained, by placing the vegetating substances in these glasses; and this is the method I would recommend to all those who shall be desirous to repeat or pursue my experiments.

29. I cannot conclude this letter without laying down some general truths, and recalling these

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scattered remarks to some certain principles. A few propositions of this kind, together with the probable consequences, that seem naturally to flow from them, will not only make my system of generation clear, but also take off many objections, and render these very observations better understood, when they are reduced under certain heads.

It seems plain therefore, that there is a vegetative force in every microscopical point of matter, and every visible filament of which the whole animal or vegetable texture consists: And probably this force extends much farther; for not only in all my observations, the whole substance, after a certain separation of salts and volatile parts, divided into filaments, and vegetated into numberless zoophytes, which yielded all the several species of common microscopical animals; but these very animals also, after a certain time, subsided to the bottom, became motionless, resolved again into a gelatinous filamentous substance, and gave zoophytes and animals of a lesser species.

This is not only true of all the common microscopical animalcules, but of the spermatic also; which, after losing their motion, and sinking to the bottom, again resolved into filaments, and again gave lesser animals. Thus the process went on through all visible degrees, till I could not any longer pursue them with my glasses: And thus evidently the spermatic are to be classed with the common microscopical animals.

Hence it is probable, that every animal or vegetable substance ad-

vances as fast as it can in its resolution to return by a slow descent to one common principle, the source of all, a kind of universal *Semen*; whence its atoms may return again and ascend to a new life. This common element therefore, though uniform in its origin and homogeneous, branches out into innumerable species more and more compounded, more and more heterogeneous, as they depart and are further from this source of organized bodies; yet may a particle often be arrested, or moulded into other bodies, long before it attains, which some perhaps never do, to this ultimate resolution. Nor is there any danger upon these suppositions of falling into equivocal generation; because the specific *Semen* of one animal can never be moulded into another, and seeds may differ specifically from one another by many invisible principles totally unknown to us, and unattainable by experiments; for we are very certain that the power of glasses, or force of any *Menstruum* we can employ, must still leave us at an immense distance from the ultimate resolution of bodies, in which alone they agree, and are homogeneous.

I say therefore the specific seed of one animal can never give another of a different species; for, to be this specific Seed, it must have gone through many changes from its first origin, and have many singularities peculiar to itself, and acquired since it passed from the homogeneous element, in which all kinds coincide. The active vegetative force that recides in it must be precise, its quantity must be exactly proportioned to the

nature, solidity, tenacity, quantity, and resistance of the ductile matter it has to wade through, if I may so express myself; and these combinations are very different in different subjects. Thus much the many strainers in every animal body, necessary to extract this *Semen* from the aliment we daily digest, and to prepare it, seem evidently to imply. Yet is not this, sufficient as it may appear to cause varieties in the several species of *Semen*, all that is to be considered: Times and circumstances make changes in it even during the term of gestation. What does not the *Fœtus* then undergo? And who can determine the differences between *Matræ* and *Matrix*; between the matter that is assimilated into a *Fœtus* in one subject, and that in another; between the fixing principles, the quantity of salts, spirits, &c. in a parent of one species, and one of another; between the more copious or more limited affluences of assimilating matter; and between times, where even single minutes, instants, &c. may be of the greatest consequence? I see the whole indeed, but confusedly; yet do I see the source of a variety; which, boundless as it were, if permitted to expatiate at full liberty, is nevertheless invariably confin'd, by him who made and rules the universe, to a certain determinate number of species. Time, action, season, quantity of resistance, quantity of force, fixing principles, affluence of assimilated matter, direction, and numberless other variations, are all employed for his purposes, and modell'd by

that almighty power, which forms and directs the whole.

Thus do these principles, however capable of differing combinations, yet admit only of a limited variation, and never deviate further than is consistent with univocal generation. Monsters, mules, imperfect *Fœtus*'s, and other instances of this kind, are but rare; and as they can be ascribed to nothing so properly as to the obstacles they meet with, or to some accidental insuperable resistance in the matter of which they are formed, they do at least serve to shew that there is in nature a real productive force given it at its creation; and that animal or vegetable productions are not the consequences of pre-existent germs, plastic natures, or of the immediate hand of God himself, any more than the most regular operations of the planetary world.

30. But to proceed in my consequences from these observations, all naturalists must acknowledge, that the more compounded the organiz'd bodies are, the less danger there is of equivocal generation in the production of them; for thus the immediate principles from which they spring, and their circumstances during the time of gestation, must be much more varied than the more simple bodies are, and at the same time be further removed, from that universal element into which they may all ultimately be resolved: and even in the lowest class of microscopical animals, I can truly say, that I never yet observed any others than productions specifically determined; the same substances

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giving the same plants and animals, and in the same uniform order and descent. Nevertheless, though thus specifically determin'd, no one, that observes their origin with the same care as I have done, will be inclined to ascribe it to pre-existent germs: It is therefore probable, as I just now advanced, that when we arrive at the lowest we can discover in this class, we are yet at an immense remove from the universal source; notwithstanding that some of them are small beyond conception; and no less simple in their motions; which argues their organisation as simple, and seems to imply that there are among them, or not at a very great distance from them, such as are only mere machines, without any true spontaneity.

I have myself seen a vast gradation; and such a one as I have yet but an imperfect notion of, in a course of continual observations made upon infusions and macerations of all kinds, from the most compounded to the most simple; from animals of the largest kind to moving atoms of the least; from motions as slow to the most powerful magnifier, as the motion of the minute-hand of a watch to eyes unarm'd; from free progression in all directions to merely oscillatory balances; which all seem to come to at last in the course of their decomposition, when they are just upon the point of disappearing.

31. Thus these animalecules, if they may be call'd indifferently by that name, manifestly constitute a class apart; and their greatest characteristic is, that they neither are generated, subsist by nutriment, as others plants and ani-

mals do, or generate in the ordinary way. This is indeed true, if the whole class is taken in one general view: Yet is the head of it united to the species of the next immediate superior. The belligerent animal, of which I have had many from my infused substances; and whose growth I have pursued from its first origin, is a species of microscopical polype, generating and feeding as other polypes do, when once itself is generated; tho' its own original generation is perhaps different from that of the others; for I could never obtain any of the larger kinds this way. I say this however with some reserve; for I will not assert but that some decayed water-plants decomposing in particular circumstances, and their substance exuberating, may perhaps, when urged by this vegetative force, give polypes of every kind; nay I very much suspect, that several of the lowest kinds of visible animals may, in due circumstances, which yet perhaps are rare, be recoverable this way, when the whole species has perished in particular places by some uncommon accident. This I the more readily believe, from the reasonableness of some allowances to be made in this respect; all which may be permitted, and must have been foreseen by the Great Creator, without any danger of confusion; or an unlimited generation of new species never before produced: He who made nature, and sees thro' the whole machine, well knew its utmost force, and has consequently foreseen every circumstance, and limited its productions accordingly.

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Nor indeed can there be a stronger argument derived from any system of generation whatsoever, of an all-wise being, all-powerful, and all-good, who gave to nature its original force, and now presides over it, than from the consideration of an exuberating ductile matter, actuated with a vegetative force, limited, tho' we know not its exact bounds, in its specific ascent or descent, and expanding itself in directions as certain and determinate, as the motions of the plants.

32. These thoughts will appear to be less hazarded, if due attention is given to the generation of the paste-eel. The *Royal Society* knows it to be viviparous; consequently perfect in this state, and such as may continue to generate in the common way, as long as it has an element and matter proper for its subsistence; yet is its own original generation, as far as I can learn by observation, as that of all these microscopical animalcules, from a ductile vegetating matter, the produce of wheat-flower and water; tho' it undergoes more changes than others, and lives in other conditions; ascending for some time before it enters its chrysalidal or egg-like state, whence it comes forth a perfect eel. I have added a figure of a group of these eel-chrysalids, but the detail of their metamorphosis I shall reserve for my little essay, and not trouble you now with an account too circumstantiated of every observation I have made upon them: besides that I am not yet thoroughly satisfied in the whole manner and process of their generation.

33. But now, to obviate every objection that may remain against the existence of this vegetative force, which seems to be the key to much knowledge, and to remove many errors; it may be proper to add, that, besides ocular demonstration, which any naturalist may have, besides the precautions I took, that no supposed germs might either be convey'd through the air or the water, or remain adhering to the substances infus'd; I have often, for these purposes, made use not only of hot broth, immediately closed up in a phial, but also of pure animal substances, such as urine, blood, &c. with the same success; and in these, I believe, no one will suppose that germs, eggs, or spawn, are pre-contain'd, if care is taken to close the phials immediately.

Nay, I have done more; I have, by reasoning consequently to my principles, been directed to the choice of many experiments, all which I constantly found to answer my expectation: I have thought, for instance, that the more exalted an animal substance was, by a certain degree of decomposition, the more apt would it be to vegetate in a proper matrix, and form the part of a larger animal; or, if it extravasated, to vegetate into the lesser; consequently, that if I took the milky juice of germinating seeds, or that thick turbid matter which forms the wing of a butterfly in its chrysalidal state, these matters must be more exalted than any ordinary substances, and therefore give me these microscopical productions so much the sooner: and in fact, I

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never, in these cases, fail'd of seeing them within the space of a few hours, while ordinary infusions did not give them under several days.

Here it will be proper to observe, that naturalists have thought the butterfly's wing pre-existent in the caterpillar, because they discover'd the first rudiments of it three or four days before it enter'd the chrysalid state; but it is then precisely that the caterpillar first leaves off eating, tho' before extremely voracious; and that probably upon account of the revolution it finds in all its parts, while its forces are otherwise employ'd, and the collection of vegetating ductile matter it had acquir'd by plentiful diet; now as plentifully exuberates to form the parts of the butterfly. These truths I am the better acquainted with, because I have particularly examin'd all those substances: you cannot tear off a portion of the butterfly's wing, even while in the chrysalid, but you will find it in an embryo-state, and the matter which extravasates upon your object-glass, if mixt with a little water to preserve its fluidity, will almost immediately vegetate into these microscopical productions. This argues an extreme activity in it; from activity follows action, and an effect, which can be no other than the formation of the wing it was contain'd in.

34. Without instancing in many other examples, where, by reasoning from these Principles, I was invariably conducted to certain consequences, this last sufficiently leads to the nature of animal or vegetable *Semen*. These latter are substances of the same sort, but

more exalted, and from thence adapted to a prompter vegetation. Of this kind also, but not so exalted, was the gelatinous substance I obtain'd by common infusions.

The exaltation however of matter does not stop here; the lower I pursued this new class of beings in its descent, the less was this vegetating force clogg'd with resisting matter, the swifter was the motion of the bodies, and the higher the degree of exaltation that produc'd them. This inclines me to believe, that an animal substance may be exalted this way into a poison, a venom, or a contagious vapour. Hence stagnating waters are poisonous and detrimental; and hence perhaps the vipereal venom, or any other, may derive its force; for these undoubtedly are all animal secretions. Hence perhaps also arise contagious epidemical distempers, from a leaven thrown into the blood by exhalations of this kind. I am the more persuaded of the truth of this, from the consideration of Dr. Mead's observations upon the venom of the viper: and swift moving bodies, which subside and shoot into filaments, seem manifestly to imply all these consequences.

35. I shall conclude therefore with summing up my system in a few words: I suppose all *Semen* of any kind to be an exalted portion of animal or vegetable matter, secreted from the aliment of every generating subject, when it is adult, and no further demand is made for its increase and growth; this I suppose to be endued with a proportionable vegetative force; to be various in various circumstances, and heterogeneous in dis-

ferent subjects; but to be uniform in productions, when it falls into a proper *Matrix*, where it finds matter to assimilate, of a quality and in a quantity sufficient to form that specific being; whilst in other circumstances, it will, if it extravasates, by the same vegetating force, yield all the several *Phænomena* I have above taken notice of. And thus, if I am not mistaken, I have obtained what I first intended to make out, that the spermatic animals are not the efficient cause of generation, but only a necessary consequence of principles in the *Semen*, which principles are necessary to generation.

Thus have I connected my system with our countryman Dr. Harvey's observation of that fine tissue, or web-like expansion, observ'd in the *Uterus* of does, in the center of which the embryo *Fœtus*, invested with its *Amnion* and *Chorion*, was found to be lodg'd: For let the vegetation begin from the *Semen*, and continue to assimilate the affluent matter from the *Matrix* wherein it has taken root, and the fawn must come forth like any other specific animal or plant.

I shall only observe, that *Leuwenboeck* had discover'd this vegetating power in the *Semen*, and had, like Mr. *de Buffon* and me, seen the filaments from whence the spermatic animals spring; he even calls them nerves and arteries; and in one of his letters to Mr. *Oldenburg* says, that he saw more in one minute than the most accurate anatomist could discover by dissection in a day: but when he afterwards chang'd this system, false as it was, of nerves and arteries for another, I believe, as false, that of pre-existing germs in the sper-

matic animals, he neglected to improve this observation as he might have done; nay he afterwards took no farther notice of it, but barely to say, that it was to be neglected. This remark I had from Mr. *de Buffon*.

The difference therefore betwixt Mr. *Leuwenboeck* and Dr. *Harvey* was, that the first had an hypothesis to maintain, and the latter nothing in view but to follow nature, without trusting too much to the first *Phænomena*, as I hope I shall appear to have done in this my enquiry.

I had almost forgot one remark that coincides with my system; that although animal and vegetable substances by a chymical analysis appear to differ, they are nevertheless found by a natural corruption to be reducible to the same principles. This has been observ'd long ago by many naturalists.

And now I think I have nothing more to add, only that I would be understood, when I speak of a productive force in nature, &c. to mean only a force, which, tho' modell'd by the *supreme Creator*, goes no further than the mechanical and material parts of a man. I well know that we are compos'd of two very different principles; and no one mere philosophical truth whatsoever presents itself to me with more evidence or conviction than the spirituality of our immortal soul. All have ever allow'd man in his origin to be a kind of plant or vegetable before he is animated; and all rational men have deriv'd his animation immediately from the fountain of life, the true source of all spiritual substances.

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The HISTORY of our own Times.

FEBRUARY 12.

NEVER were greater quantities of *French* goods run in upon us than at present, some of which have been seiz'd by the custom-house officers, particularly a horse loaded with gold and silver lace, near *Shoreham* in *Sussex*; one hundred and twenty pieces of cambrick in another place; and seven open boats lately come over from *France* into the *Thames*, with *French* goods, most of them taken by the vigilance of the custom-house officers; nor can any thing put a stop to this pernicious practice, while it is encouraged by almost all the quality, especially the ladies. They are visited every morning by women, who don't scruple to declare they have brought over great quantities of *French* goods, or receiv'd them from their correspondents in *France* (one of these women will conceal the value of 100 l. and more of *French* trifles under her cloaths) for which they receive ready money, that is employ'd in purchasing a new foreign cargo: and while multitudes maintain themselves by smuggling, gaming, gambling, and open robberies; there are others that live by forgery; no less than thirty have been committed for this crime within the space of a month.

Feb. 16. Dissecting of human bodies, being a very common practice at present: when the gallows does not supply the surgeons with a sufficient number, they treat with the sextons for them; one of whom being discover'd trafficking for human flesh was oblig'd to run away, and the surgeon to give bail for his appearance, and two of the bodies, the surgeon had in his keeping, were carry'd back to the burying ground and reinter'd.

The whale fishery, as well as the herring fishery, begins to revive. It appearing that no less than forty ships are now preparing to sail to *Greenland* this season; and indeed we have too long neglected both, and suffer'd foreigners to run away with the profits, but especially the herring-fishery upon our own coast, where it is computed, no less than seven hundred *French*, *Dutch*, or *Danish* busses fish'd the last season; and under pretence of fishing, it will be very easy for the *French* to surprise us whenever they are disposed to quarrel; and land twenty or thirty thousand men upon the eastern coast of *Great-Britain* before they declare war.

Feb. 20. This day being *Ash-Wednesday*, several hundreds, or rather thousands, of sailors assembled near the *Royal Exchange*, having seen an advertisement in the papers, assuring those who were entitled to prize money, that they shou'd receive five pounds a man, if they apply'd for it at the *Fountain-Tavern* in *Bartholomew Lane*, and finding themselves disappointed, they enter'd the house, seiz'd the supposed author of the advertisement, put him in a coach, and carried him in triumph, guarded by some hundreds of their fraternity to the *Admiralty Office*, but being *Ash-Wednesday*, there was no board; they afterwards conducted him to *St. James's*, where they were refused admittance; on which they went to justice *Fielding*, who told them the affair was not cognizable before him, as it was transacted in the city, and therefore recommended them to the lord mayor, whither they accordingly went, and his lordship committed him to *Newgate*: But a false report being spread abroad, that their mo-

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ney was at Mr. Belchier's in Lombard-street, they assembled in a tumultuous manner before his house, which obliged several bankers and tradesmen to shut up their shops, and they continued in so riotous a manner, that alderman Winterbottom was desir'd to read the proclamation against rioters twice, from a window at the *Crown* and *Anchor* in the same street; during which time the lord mayor had sent for two companies of soldiers, the one from the *Tower* and the other from the *Savoy*, to prevent any disturbance. Thomas Smith, one of the ringleaders, was taken into custody for insulting the alderman in his office, and sent to *Newgate*, guarded by a file of musqueteers, but the advertiser and the sailor were released two days afterwards.

We received advice from *Dublin*, that on the 2d of *February*, the verdict and judgment obtained by the hon. James Amelsy against his uncle, Richard, earl of *Anglesey*, was affirm'd in the *Exchequer Chamber* there, and the writ of error brought by his lordship so long since, as *November*, 1743, to stay proceedings, was set aside.

Feb. 21. The sheriffs of *London* presented a petition to the house of commons, praying for some remedy against the excessive use of spirituous liquors. And another petition against the naturalizing of foreign protestants.

And it has been propos'd, to employ our native poor in our manufactures, before we introduce foreigners; and if we want hands, to encourage our own people to encrease and multiply, by allowing certain privileges to those who marry and have a great number of children, as the *Romans* did anciently.

It has been propos'd also, to lay so high a duty upon gin, that the poor can't afford to drink it.

The reformation of our stile, from that which is call'd the old to the new

stile, is now under consideration, whereby we shall come eleven days nearer the truth, but our year will still be above two days behind what it ought to be.

Orders have been lately given for viewing the condition of all the men of war in the royal navy; and the state of the yards stores, and magazines belonging to his majesty, and for the fitting out a fleet with all expedition. The *French* making great preparations to encrease and enlarge their settlements on the *Guinea* coast, as well as in *America*, to the prejudice of *Great Britain*.

By the late high winds which happen'd the latter end of *February*, several great churches receiv'd very considerable damage, particularly *St Mary's*, the university church at *Oxford*; the cathedrals of *Winchester*, *Worcester*, and some others, and the shipping suffer'd pretty much at sea.

Feb. 25. Seven soldiers of the guards were committed to the *Gates* by justice Lediard, charged with several robberies while they were on duty at *Hampton Court*, being impeach'd by a corporal who was an accomplice.

Feb. 27. Great part of the business of the spiritual court seems to be transfer'd to the courts of common law of late; an instance whereof we have in a cause that was tried at *Guildhall*, before the lord chief justice Lee the latter end of *February*, where a certain wool-stapler having brought his action against a sadler for criminal conversation with the plaintiff's wife obtain'd a verdict for five hundred pounds damages against the sadler, besides costs of suit.

The smugglers still continue to carry it with a high hand upon the coast of *Suffolk*, bidding defiance to the troops quarter'd on that side to suppress them.

About the middle of *February*, a gang of these smugglers enter'd the dwelling house of a gentleman at

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Diss in Suffolk, who was preparing an entertainment for some company that was to sup with him that evening, and being arm'd with sledge hammers, &c. the gentleman and his servants, knowing them to be smugglers justly apprehended the desperate treatment they were like to meet with; the keys of the several rooms were immediately offer'd them, but they said they had no occasion for them, and presently fell to breaking all the doors with their hammers, and spitefully destroy'd all the china and glasses in the house. They then rifled the gentleman's desk of 400 l. in money, and to complete their villany, they afterwards hung the gentleman up till he was almost dead, but one of them had so much compassion as to cut him down, and thereby happily saved his life.

The high manner in which these desperate wretches live, reduces them to a kind of necessity of raising a fund for trade by such means as these; for being, on account of such extravagancies, out of credit with the *Hollanders* and *French*, whom they traffic with, it is usual with them to supply themselves with money for such purposes, by first robbing their neighbours, and then the government.

March 2. A motion being made at the last general court of the *South Sea* company, to petition the parliament for some satisfaction to be made to the company, in consideration of their great demand on the crown of *Spain*, which was wav'd by his majesty for the general good of this nation, by the treaty lately concluded at *Madrid*. It pass'd in the negative, the court being acquainted; that his majesty had given for answer to the company's address presented some time since, *That he had obtain'd from the king of Spain all that lay in his power, so that no more cou'd possibly be expected.*

March 4. Twelve months pay

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was order'd to be issu'd for the payment of the last officers in *Great Britain*, *Misorca*, and *Gibraltar*, from the 25th of *December*, 1749, to the 24th of *December*, 1750.

The *Remembrancer*, N^o. 169, has reviv'd the memory of the proceedings against the five *Aylesbury* men, who brought their actions against the return officers of that corporation for not admitting their votes for representatives in the parliament, elected, anno 1704. When the commons resolv'd, that these five men who brought actions against the constables of that town, for not allowing their votes were guilty of a breach of privilege, and order'd them to be committed to *Newgate*; whereupon the *Aylesbury* men brought their *habeas corpus*, and the case was heard in the court of *King's Bench*, but they were remanded to *Newgate*, and their counsel, solicitors, &c. voted guilty of a breach of privilege: Whereupon the peers resolv'd,

That neither house of parliament hath any power by any vote or declaration to create to themselves any new privilege, that is not warranted by the known laws and custom of parliament.

That every freeman of *England* who apprehends himself to be injured, has a right to seek redress by action at law; and that the commencing and prosecuting any action at common law, against any person not entitled to the privilege of parliament, is no breach of the privilege of parliament.

That the house of commons in committing to *Newgate* *Daniel Horne*, *Henry Bass*, *John Patten*, *John Patey*, and *John Oviat*, for commencing and prosecuting an action at common law, against the late constables of *Aylesbury*, for not allowing their votes in an election of members to serve in parliament; upon pretence, that the said *Daniel* and the others bringing such action, was contrary to a declaration,

ration a contempt of the jurisdiction and a breach of the privileges of that house;—have assum'd to themselves alone a legislative authority, by pretending to attribute the force of a law, to their declaration; have claimed a jurisdiction not warranted by the constitution, and have assum'd a new privilege, to which they can shew no title by the law and custom of parliaments; and have thereby, as far as in them lies, subjected the rights of *Englishmen* and the freedom of their persons, to the arbitrary votes of the house of commons.

That every *Englishman* who is imprison'd by any authority whatsoever has an undoubted right by his agents or friends, to apply for, and obtain a writ of *Habeas Corpus*, in order to procure his liberty by due course of law.

That for the house of commons to censure or punish any person, for assisting a prisoner to procure a writ of *Habeas Corpus*; or by vote or otherwise to deter men from soliciting, prosecuting, or pleading upon such writ of *Habeas Corpus*, in behalf of such prisoners, is an attempt of dangerous consequence, a breach of the many good statutes provided for the liberty of the subject, and of pernicious example, by denying the necessary assistance to the prisoner, upon a commitment of the house of commons, which has been ever allowed upon all commitments, by any authority whatsoever.

That a writ of error is not a writ of grace but of right, and ought not to be denied to the subject, when duly applied for, tho' at the request of either house of parliament; the denial thereof being an obstruction of justice, contrary to *Magna Charta*.

March 4. Seventy one prisoners were tried at the *Old Bailey* this session, seven of whom receiv'd sentence of death, one for transportation for 14 years, thirty two transportation for seven years, one burnt in the hand,

and eight whipp'd; the rest were acquitted.

Theodore, so many years still'd king of *Corfica*, appears to be fallen so low, that he suffer'd himself to be sued for a debt of one hundred pounds, and upon a trial at *Guildhall* a verdict was found for the plaintiff.

YORK, March 5. About four, last Tuesday morning, began the most violent storm of wind, accompanied with rain, that has been known here for many years, which lasted till nine at night: one of the pinnacles of the northwest tower of the cathedral, with most of the battlements on that side, were blown down, and fell thro' the roof of the church, doing at least five hundred pounds damage. The church of *Allhallows* was rent in several places, chimneys were blown down, and many houses untill'd, and in the adjacent country trees were torn up by the roots, houses blown down, and stacks of corn and hay dispers'd about the fields.

March 6. By a petition of the trustees of *Georgia* it appears, that this plantation produces both silk and indigo, and with a little encouragement, wou'd be able to supply us with those two material articles which we purchase of foreigners with treasure, at present. *CAROLINA*, of which *Georgia* is a part, would also produce wine and oil if properly cultivated: as to silk, we had a sample of it sent over above twenty years ago, and Sir *Thomas Lumbe*, proprietor of the silk mills at *Derby*, declar'd it was as good as any raw silk imported from abroad, but we have slept over this experiment ever since, and seem to neglect the advantages we might reap from that invaluable colony of *Carolina*, from whom we might be supply'd with almost every article that *Great Britain* wants, and have its products in exchange for *British* manufactures, if the planters met with encouragement to raise them.

March 7. This day the play of *Othello*

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Othello was acted by several ladies and gentlemen at the Theatre Royal in *Drury Lane*, with great applause; their dresses exceeding rich, and the musick the best that could be had, added to the playhouse band. The duke of Cumberland, princess *Amelia*, prince *George*, and princess *Augusta*, with a great number of the nobility and persons of distinction present.

March 7. Another petition has been prefer'd by the city of *London* and the sugar colonies, setting forth that the people of *New England*, and the rest of the *British* northern colonies are engag'd in a traffic, very prejudicial to their mother country; namely, in the carrying ship-timber, pitch, tar, and all manner of naval stores to *Marseilles*, *Toulon*, and other foreign *European* ports. As also furs, skins, and other produce of the *British* plantations, and bartering them away with the *French*, *Dutch*, and other nations for *European* and *East-India* commodities, with which they return to *America*, and supply the *British* colonies from thence with *European* goods; whereby their mother country loses the benefit of supplying the *British* colonies with the goods, manufactures, and produce of *Great Britain*.

They also set forth, that notwithstanding the law lately made, laying high duties upon all sugar, rum, and molasses, imported from the *French* sugar islands into the *British* plantations, the people of *New England*, and other *British* colonies continue to carry timber and all manner of provisions to the *French*, *Dutch*, and *Danish* sugar islands, which could not subsist without these supplies, and take sugar, rum, and molasses from them in return; whereby the *British* sugar colonies have almost lost their trade, and desire therefore some remedy may be provided against these practices.

† The Americans really could do very little without the foreign market have ruin'd all Europe.

And as to this traffic of the northern colonies with the foreign sugar colonies, it is very probable it will be entirely prohibited. But as to their supplying *France*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, and other *European* countries with timber and naval stores, with which the *British* dominions on the continent of *North America* abound, there does not seem the like reason to prohibit this traffic, provided they oblige those ships which carry timber, &c. to *Europe*, to come to *England*, and take a cargo of the produce and manufacture of this country, and carry back to our *American* plantations; for as these plantations produce more timber and naval stores than they can dispose of elsewhere, why should not the *British* northern colonies be permitted to make the most of their produce, and endeavour to enrich themselves by such means as can be no prejudice to their mother country. They may as well take *French* money as strangers, provided they lay it out in *Great Britain* in *British* commodities, and return with them to our *American* plantations.

Mar. 11. At the public sale of the *Hudson's Bay* company on *Thursday* last, the *Parchment Beaver* was wholly bought up for exportation, at an advanc'd price of seventy five per cent. which, together with the advance of the sale of that company in *November* last, has more than doubled the price of that commodity, and render'd it impossible for the manufacturers in *England* to purchase it; whereby several poor families dependent thereon, are render'd incapable of getting a livelihood.

On *Thursday* last *Taylor White*, Esq; one of the *Welsh* judges, with three more gentlemen, were robbed by a single highwayman, of upwards of fifty pounds, near *Stevenage* in *Hertfordshire*, going the circuit.

BIRTHS,

BIRTHS, DEATHS and
PREFERMENTS.

Feb. 8, His grace the duke of Somerset is appointed lord lieutenant of the county of Wilts.

Colonel Belford is appointed clerk of the artillery, in the room of gen. Borgard, deceas'd.

14, The right hon. the countess of Winchelsea and Nottingham was deliver'd of a daughter.

16, His majesty has appointed Benjamin Keene, Esq; his ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to his catholic majesty.

William Purcas of the middle Temple, Esq; made one of the six clerks in chancery.

18, Died in an advanced age, lieutenant general Peter Campbell, lieutenant governor of Portsmouth, and first gentleman of the beer buttery at St. James's.

Sir Philp Honeywood is appointed colonel of the blue guards, in the room of the late duke of Richmond.

March 8, The king has appointed James Sinclair Esq; lieutenant general of his majesty's forces, and governor of the city of Corke, in the room of general Parker deceas'd.

9, The king has appointed Sir Peter Halket, bart. to be colonel of the regiment of foot, late under the command of colonel Lee, deceas'd.

Thomas Gages, Esq; is appointed lieutenant colonel, and Russel Chapman, major to the said regiment.

Books published in February and March.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Considerations on the expediency of making, and the manner of conducting the late regulations at Cambridge. 1s. *Payne and Bouquet*, (See page 236)

History, Physic, Law, Mathematics.

The life of Frederic William I. late king of Prussia. *Oberne.*

Alexander Durbure, Esq; is made colonel of the regiment of foot, late commanded by lieutenant general RPhillippe, deceas'd.

William Rufane, Esq; made lieutenant colonel of the regiment of foot, commanded by William Kerr, Esq; called earl of Ancram, and William Godfrey Esq; major of the said regiment.

Sir George Suttee, bart. is made lieutenant colonel of the regiment of foot commanded by colonel Francis Leighton, and William Taylor, Esq; major of the said regiment.

John Guerin, Esq; is made lieutenant colonel of the regiment of dragoons commanded by the hon. Sir John Cope, knight of the Bath, Edward Hervey, Esq; is appointed major of the said regiment.

Mark Kenton, Esq; is made major of the regiment of foot commanded by the hon. colonel William Herbert.

William Parsons, Esq; is made major of the regiment of dragoons commanded by Humphry Bland, Esq; lieutenant general.

On Wednesday last died unmarried, at Byram in Yorkshire, the first Sir John Ramden, bart. the right hon. Henry Lowther, lord viscount Lonsdale, baron Lowther of Lowther, in the county of Westmorland; and

About a fortnight since died the right hon. William-Matthias Stafford-Howard, earl and baron Stafford, of Stafford-Castle; who is succeeded by his uncle Stafford.

A new general system of Midwifry, illustrated with a variety of remarkable cases, in four parts, by Brudenell Exton, M. D. 8vo. 3s. 6d. sew'd, or 4s. bound. *Owen.*

Practical cases and observations in surgery. By Dale Ingram. *Clarke.*

The history of Westminster-Abby, By Richard Widmore, A. M. 5s. *Fox.*

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An exposition of the uncertainties in the practice of physic. By Benito Geronimo Feijo, master-general of the order of St. Benedict. 1s. *Tonson*. This treatise is intended to shew the total inefficacy of physic for the restoration of health. The author has published 9 volumes in the Spanish tongue, chiefly on popular errors. By this work he appears to have great abilities, yet he seems to have displayed them rather in favour of scepticism than truth. The effect of medicines with respect to the cure of particular diseases, is indeed in a great degree uncertain, and they are frequently applied without success, because the disease is not sufficiently known, and the circumstances of the patient with respect to situation, habit, manner of life, and constitution are not regarded with sufficient attention. But tho' medicines are sometimes applied without success, the effects of many are known and certain. Ipecacuanha will vomit, manna will purge, and mercury will salivate; therefore whenever vomiting, purging, or salivating are necessary, of which in many cases there can be no doubt, it is evident that medicines may restore health. From the great modesty with which Sydenham, of whom the author gives an high character, expresses himself with respect to the best method of treating diseases, he insists that those who are most skilful in physic are most doubtful of its success. But if his position be true, Sydenham could deserve no encomium as a physician, however he might excel as a philosopher.

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* See Mr. Kalm's account in our last, and a review of the cataract in this Mag.

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(The remainder in our next.)